

THE BULLETIN

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

MARCH 6, 2006 • 59TH YEAR • NUMBER 14

Graduate Academic Experience on Target

By Jenny Hall

GRADUATE STUDENTS AT U OF T are generally happy with the academic experience on campus but would like to see improvements in areas like financial aid and interdisciplinary opportunities, according to the results of the 2005 Graduate and Professional Student Survey (GPSS).

Conducted for the first time in the spring of 2005, the GPSS was a collaborative effort of the G10, a group of research-intensive Canadian universities. The U of T survey reached all graduate students with active e-mail addresses and 4,833 students took part, representing a response rate of 41 per cent.

Professor Susan Pfeiffer, dean of the School of Graduate Studies, noted that the GPSS will allow U of T to compare the graduate and undergraduate student experiences and facilitate a comparison with the G10. The survey is part of an institutional commitment to improving the student experience on campus, identified as the university's central priority for the coming years.

Ninety per cent of the graduate student population gave high marks to the intellectual quality of their program, faculty

members and fellow students.

Four categories received low marks from more than 10 per cent of respondents: amount of financial support, assistance in finding employment, opportunity to interact across disciplines and program space and facilities.

In comparison with the G10 universities, U of T fares well in terms of academics but 24.5 per cent of respondents rated their student life experience as poor, compared with 18.4 per cent of G10 students.

The Higher Education Data Sharing survey administered to graduate students at U of T in 2002 showed similar results in terms of overall satisfaction rates. Comparing the two surveys shows dramatic increases in the scholarly activity of graduate students. In 2005, 52 per cent published a paper as the sole or first author, up from 18 per cent in 2002. Seventy-two per cent reported having conducted independent research in 2005, up from 61 per cent in 2002.

"If our responsibility is to create the next generation of scholars, independent thinkers and problem-solvers, then this sort of engagement in research

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Professor Wins Oscar

By Nicolle Wahl

AND THE OSCAR GOES TO ... Professor Demetri Terzopoulos!

Terzopoulos, a status-only professor in computer science and electrical and computer engineering, walked the red carpet and received a technical achievement award Feb. 18 at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Scientific and Technical Achievement Awards in Beverly Hills.

"I thanked the academy and the Sci-Tech committee and I thanked my former colleagues," Terzopoulos said. "And I thanked my mom."

Canadian actress Rachel McAdams hosted the black-tie presentation dinner at the Beverly Hilton and gave Terzopoulos both his certificate and a kiss.

Along with Microsoft senior researcher John Platt, Terzopoulos, also a professor at the University of California at Los

Angeles, received the award for a computer animation technology they developed that makes simulated cloth that looks and moves like actual fabric. According to the academy, it was "a milestone in computer graphics." The technique was published in a 1987 paper titled *Elastically Deformable Models* and a decade later, animators at Pixar Animation Studios and elsewhere began using variations of this method. Simulated cloth has now appeared in movies such as *Star Wars* (Episodes II and III), the *Harry Potter* series and the *Lord of the Rings* films.

In those films, the technique was used to create the clothing for computer-generated characters such as Yoda and Gollum. "In addition to cloth, which is surface-like, we could also do strands like hair and fur or three-dimensional solid objects made of, say, rubber and sponge."

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UTSC's Robbie Brydon, co-president, UofT Engineers Without Borders (left), and Jiayi Zhou, an engineering science student, carried water on their heads from Union Station to U of T on March 2 to raise awareness of international development issues.

THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD

Engineers Without Borders campaign for international development

By Nicolle Wahl

IMAGINE CARRYING THE MINIMUM amount of water that your family needs for an entire day in a bucket balanced on your head. The average North American would stagger as the weight first settles and would struggle to stay upright, let alone keep the vessel from spilling. But for millions of people around the world, fetching water is a daily and arduous task, demanding that

heavy loads be carried for miles.

On March 2, students from the University of Toronto chapter of Engineers Without Borders shouldered that burden, at least symbolically, to raise awareness about international development issues. More than a dozen students started the day at 6 a.m. in the Great Hall at Union Station, speaking to the day's commuters about Canada's role in international development. Then at 7:30 a.m., 15 of them hoisted heavy buckets

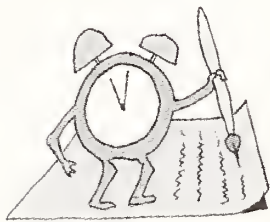
of water onto their heads and took a four-kilometre trek north to the St. George campus via Bay Street.

"We hope that this event will provide a message of unity of people across the world," said William Li, vice-president (public relations) of the chapter. "We all live in this world and we're all human beings. But there are many human beings who face major challenges just to sustain themselves that we,

-See WEIGHT Page 4-

CAN ZYATKAUSKAS

IN BRIEF



GOVERNING COUNCIL ELECTIONS UPCOMING

ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS TO FILL VACANCIES ON GOVERNING COUNCIL and Academic Board are being held during March. The elections are conducted under the rules set out each year in the election guidelines approved by Governing Council. Together with four student seats, two teaching staff seats and one administrative staff seat will be determined by March election results and ballots have been mailed to affected faculty and staff. Nominations for Governing Council teaching staff candidates from UTM and UTSC close March 10. There are 12 teaching staff seats to be decided for Academic Board; the nomination deadline for these seats is also March 10. Visit www.utoronto.ca/govcncl/elections for details on voting dates and nomination deadlines.

LIBRARY ACQUIRES BERMUDA'S HISTORICAL CIVIL RECORDS

THE THOMAS FISHER RARE BOOK LIBRARY IS THE RECIPIENT OF AN impressive three-volume edition of Bermuda's civil records from the 17th century. The books are a gift from the Maritime Museum of Bermuda in honour of the author, Archibald Hollis Hallett. The gift "is of great significance because of Dr. Hallett's contribution to Bermuda history and his long association with the University of Toronto," said Carole Moore, chief librarian. Hallett studied at U of T in the 1940s and was principal of University College from 1970 to 1977 before returning to Bermuda as the first president of Bermuda College. He wrote several volumes on Bermudian history and his set of Bermuda civil records was published posthumously in 2004. "This really is a seminal work in Bermuda history," Moore said. Hallett "dedicated a lot of his life to this, as he did to higher education here and in Bermuda." The limited-edition set was passed on to the Fisher library by President Emeritus George Connell, who received it on the university's behalf in a special ceremony in Bermuda.

SWIMMERS ON THE PODIUM

THE VARSITY BLUES MEN'S SWIM TEAM PLACED THIRD OVERALL AT THE 2006 Canadian Interuniversity Sport swimming championship at Université Laval in Quebec City, Feb. 23 to 25. Ian MacLeod earned individual bronze medals in the 200-metre butterfly and the 100-metre butterfly, while teammate Marco Monaco captured silver in the 200-metre breaststroke and bronze in the 100-metre breaststroke. Both men were also part of two medal-winning relays, helping U of T earn bronze in the 4x100-metre medley relay and the 4x200-metre freestyle relay. The team is coached by Byron MacDonald.

THE BULLETIN

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

"The Bulletin shall be a University-wide newspaper for faculty and staff with a dual mandate:

1. To convey information accurately on the official University position on important matters as reflected in decisions and statements by the Governing Council and the administration.

2. It shall also publish campus news, letters and responsible opinion and report on events or issues at the University thoroughly and from all sides."

As approved by Governing Council, Feb. 3, 1988

AWARDS & HONOURS

FACULTY OF ARTS & SCIENCE

PROFESSOR JERRY MITROVICA OF PHYSICS HAS BEEN CHOSEN to receive the prestigious Augustus Love Medal of the European Geosciences Union. Cited as having made a number of seminal contributions, Mitrovica will receive the medal, awarded to a distinguished scientist in the field of geodynamics, during the union's annual meeting April 2 to 7 in Vienna, Austria. Founded in 2002 as a merger of the European Geophysical Society and the European Union of Geosciences, the organization is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in the geosciences and the planetary and space sciences for the benefit of humanity.

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS SAMMOND OF ENGLISH AND CINEMA studies has been selected to receive the 2006 Katherine Singer Kovacs Book Award of the Society of Cinema and Media Studies, given annually for outstanding scholarship in film and media studies that significantly advances scholarship and thinking in the field either by opening up new lines of inquiry or by consolidating existing ones at a high level of accomplishment. Sammond won the award for *Babes in Tomorrowland: Walt Disney and the Making of the American Child, 1930-1960*. Sammond received the prize during the society's annual meeting March 2 to 5 in Vancouver.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

PROFESSOR EARL BOGOCH OF SURGERY HAS BEEN SELECTED to receive an Award of Merit of the Canadian Orthopaedic Association. The award, given in recognition of Bogoch's outstanding contributions to orthopedic surgery, his work in osteoporosis education and treatment of patients who are treated for fragility fractures by orthopedic surgeons, will be presented during the association's annual meeting in Toronto June 2 to 4.

PROFESSOR CARL CARDELLA OF MEDICINE IS THIS YEAR'S recipient of the Canadian Society of Transplantation Lifetime Achievement Award, the highest honour bestowed by the society. The society's purpose is to further all aspects of transplantation in Canada by providing and maintaining a national professional

forum for physicians and surgeons, scientists and others occupied in clinical and scientific aspects of transplantation; and promoting the education and scientific advancement of the broad discipline of transplantation, among other endeavours. Cardella received the award March 4 during the society's annual meeting in Mont-Tremblant, Que.

PROFESSORS ZANE COHEN OF SURGERY, JACQUELINE JAMES of medicine and Fay Weisberg of obstetrics and gynecology and Dr. Barnett Giblon, medical alumnus representative, are the 2004-2005 winners of the Colin R. Woolf Continuing Education Awards, created to recognize outstanding contributions to continuing education courses. Cohen won for course co-ordination of Update in General Surgery 2005; James for course co-ordination of Diabetes Update 2005; Weisberg for excellence in teaching; and Giblon for long-term contributions to continuing education. The awards, the highest in the faculty in the continuing education field, will be presented in the spring.

PROFESSOR ARI ZARETSKY OF PSYCHIATRY IS ONE OF THIS year's recipients of the American Psychiatric Association's Irma Bland Award for Excellence in Teaching Residents in recognition of his outstanding and sustaining contributions to resident education in the Department of Psychiatry. Given for the first time last year, the award was created by the association and its council of medical education and lifelong learning to honour Bland, a nationally recognized educator, clinician and administrator in the mental health arena, specializing in the impact of cultural issues on mental health and psychiatric care. Zaretsky will receive the award during the annual meeting May 20 to 25 in Toronto. He has also been elected a distinguished fellow of the association.



Two Researchers Receive Sloan Fellowships

By Nicole Wahl

TWO YOUNG U OF T FACULTY members have won prestigious U.S.-based Sloan Research Fellowships. Professors Aaron Hertzmann of computer science and Arun Paramekanti of physics join an esteemed group of winners for 2006, most of whom hail from U.S. universities including Harvard University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton University and the University of California at Berkeley.

Hertzmann, who in 2004 was listed as one of the 100 top young innovators under 35 by MIT's *Technology Review* magazine, is exploring various aspects of computer graphics, computer vision and machine learning. His work focuses on topics such as character animation, visual tracking, reconstruction and rotoscoping, image processing and texture synthesis, non-photorealistic rendering and machine learning algorithms and applications.

"The Sloan Fellowship gives me flexibility to pay for resources that are important to research but

difficult to fund with government money," Hertzmann said.

Paramekanti is examining the complex field of theoretical quantum condensed matter physics, particularly strongly correlated superfluids, superconductors and quantum magnets. He has also explored fields such as high-temperature superconductivity, Bosonic supersolids and the physics of fractionalization.

"It was very exciting to hear the news," Paramekanti said. "I feel honoured to be chosen for the award from among so many outstanding candidates across North America. The unconditional research support provided by the fellowship will be an invaluable resource and I will strive to carry out even more significant work as a Sloan Fellow."

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation of New York awards 116 fellowships annually to the very best young faculty members in seven specified fields of science: chemistry, computational and evolutionary molecular biology, computer science, economics, mathematics, neuroscience and physics. Only eight fellowships

were awarded this year to researchers at Canadian universities.

The two-year fellowships come with a \$45,000 US award that can be used for equipment, technical assistance, professional travel, trainee support or any other research-related activity.

"We are delighted that two of our outstanding faculty members have received this prestigious international recognition," said Professor John Challis, vice-president (research) and associate provost. "The fact that young scientists from the University of Toronto have again been the recipients of Sloan Fellowships underscores that U of T is acknowledged as one of North America's finest research and teaching universities."

The Sloan Research Fellowships, the oldest program of the Sloan Foundation, were established in 1955 to provide support and recognition to young scientists. These researchers are often in their first appointments to university faculties and are working to set up laboratories and establish independent research projects.

Communications Building Opens at UTM

By Tracy Moniz

THE MARCH 2 OPENING OF THE communication, culture and technology building at the University of Toronto at Mississauga signals a new era of discovery into how communication builds knowledge and creates culture.

"The University of Toronto is committed to enriching the student environment and this innovative building furthers that goal," said President David Naylor. "Our students are our top priority and it gives me great pleasure to know that the university and greater community have a new focal point for the interdisciplinary study of human communication."

Designed by Saucier + Perrotte Architectes, this \$34-million four-storey, 112,819-square-foot, glass-walled building features multimedia studio theatre and editing suites, interactive computer classrooms and labs, a 500-seat lecture theatre, an auditory research facility and an e-gallery for electronic art exhibits.

"As we celebrate the opening of this leading-edge building, we also celebrate the unique learning opportunities it will offer our students," said Professor Ian Orchard, vice-president and principal of UTM. "This facility and the programs therein will stimulate the exploration and exchange of ideas among students, faculty and staff and equip our students to succeed as leaders, entrepreneurs and innovators in today's workplace."

The facility received support from the federal government through the Canada Foundation for Innovation, from the Government of Ontario and the Ontario Innovation Trust and from the City of Mississauga as well as private donations from the GE Foundation, Hitachi Canada Ltd., the Mississauga Board of Chinese Professionals and Businesses and friends of R.H. McNutt.

"The official opening is a powerful example of what can be achieved when various

stakeholders come together as partners," said Professor Eliot Phillipson, president and CEO of the Canada Foundation for Innovation. "This innovative new facility will allow students and researchers to work together to make Canada a leader in this increasingly important area of research."

The new building houses the Human Communication Lab and the Institute of Communication and Culture. Dedicated to the study of how human communication systems develop and change across the lifespan, the Human Communication Lab conducts research in the areas of auditory and visual perception, music cognition, sensory and cognitive aging and infant studies. The Institute of Communication and Culture, an interdisciplinary research and teaching institute, addresses questions of culture and communication across the humanities, sciences and social sciences. It consists of five academic units: the communication, culture and information technology program; the professional writing and communication program; the Centre for Visual and Media Culture; biomedical communications; and the Blackwood Gallery.

"In our knowledge and information-based culture, cutting-edge facilities like this one are more important than ever," said Dalton McGuinty, premier of Ontario and minister of research and innovation. "We're pleased to be a partner in this investment because it will help ensure Ontario remains a world leader in research and innovation — improving our quality of life for years to come."

Hazel McCallion, mayor of Mississauga, noted, "The City of Mississauga has built a strong and unique partnership with the University of Toronto at Mississauga. I am proud of the city's investment in the university and its students. By investing in a dynamic building such as this one, we help educate our next generation of leaders and, in doing so, contribute to the future prosperity of our city."



Lisa (left) and Rhonda Toussaint rehearse with fellow members of the U of T Gospel Choir. Lisa is the conductor, Rhonda the business manager.

Soul'd Out Is Gospel Thank-You

By Elizabeth Monier-Williams

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO Gospel Choir is giving back to the university that supported its creation.

On March 16 at 7 p.m., the choir is performing Soul'd Out Live, a special fundraiser at the auditorium of the Medical Sciences Building. They'll be raising money for U of T's planned multifaith centre, where they'll eventually rehearse.

"It's a chance to give back to the university, which has given us rehearsal space and a lot of support," said Rhonda Toussaint, the choir's business manager. She was a criminology and sociology student at New College when she and a friend founded the choir 11 years ago. "It's a labour of love for us."

Founded in February 1995

during Black History Month, its goal was to celebrate African-Canadian heritage within an empowering environment. The choir membership includes all races and Christian denominations. Its members practise every Friday evening in the Koffler Student Services Centre and perform an average of two to three times a month. Over the years the group has been invited to perform in the West Indies, Sweden and Japan.

"The choir was supposed to be a temporary way to reach out to students but it's become much more than that," Toussaint said.

Second-year physiology student Alvina August is among the choir's new recruits. She was looking for something to unite her interests in music, creative expression and religion when she joined the University of Toronto

Gospel Choir last fall.

"I'm a musical person and singing is a big part of my life," August said. "I had been singing in an a cappella group but wanted to perform music that really meant something to me."

August finds gospel music a rewarding experience for both the performer and the audience. "There's a lot of preparation but the performances are so heartfelt and real — it's all about God and getting His word out there," she said. "There's nothing more satisfying than having someone come up and say that something we've sung has touched them or helped them with a problem they're dealing with. It's awesome."

Tickets to Soul'd Out Live are \$5 in advance or \$10 at the door; for more information e-mail info@utgc.org or call 416-614-4872.

Gold, Bronze New U of T Colours

By Elizabeth Monier-Williams

A trio of U of T Olympians returned triumphant from the Olympic Games in Turin, while a fourth narrowly missed a podium finish.

Alumnae Vicki Sunohara and Jayna Hefford, former members of the Varsity Blues women's hockey team, each added a hockey gold medal to those earned in Salt Lake City in 2002. Canada faced the Swedes in the gold medal game, where they dominated the match from start to finish, defeating Sweden by 4-1.

In a repeat of her feat at the Salt Lake City Games, Hefford scored Canada's final goal of the game. She also had an assist during the first period, finishing the tournament with three goals and four assists. "This may be the most balanced team in the tournament," Hefford told CBC reporters. "We have four lines that can score on anyone and great goaltending. It was just a real team effort."

Assistant captain and fellow

alumna Sunohara had one goal and two assists during the tournament and has been a member of the national women's hockey team for the better part of 15 years. When asked about her plans for 2010, Sunohara told reporters, "I'd love to continue playing but these young kids are really knocking on the door, so we'll see."

Jeffrey Buttle, a chemical engineering and applied chemistry student and Canadian men's national figure skating champion, rocketed back from a sixth-place finish in the Olympic short program to win a bronze medal with his performance in the free program. Skating to Samson and Delilah, Buttle scored 76.80 technical points and 78.50 for his program components.

"Oh, my God, it's nuts," were the first words out of his mouth, The Canadian Press reported. "This is huge for me. I was happy with how I skated — I was just happy with that, but this is, like, insane. I didn't think I'd be able to

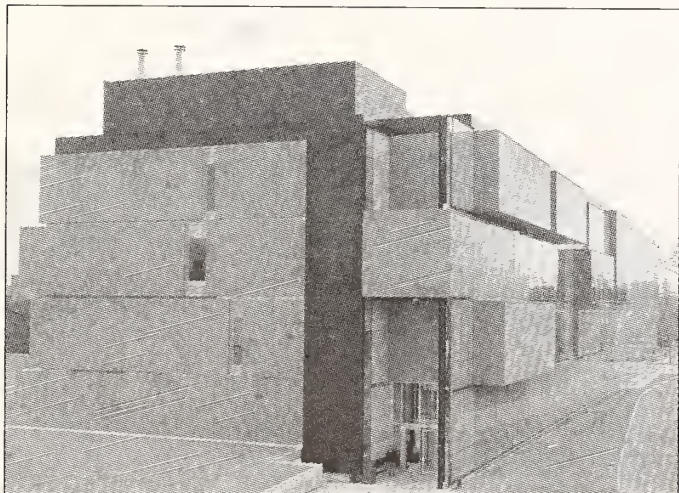
come back that much."

Heather Moyse, an occupational therapy master's degree student, earned a fourth-place finish in the two-man bobsled, pushing pilot Helen Upperton and the sled close to the podium. Moyse, a member of the Canadian national rugby team and a recent recruit to bobsledding, is considering competing in Vancouver in 2010.

"I don't think I ever expected to love the sport," Moyse told The Canadian Press. "I have and it's awesome."

U of T physical education student Kate Foster competed for the U.K. in the snowboarding competition in Turin. She returns without a medal, but with some solid Olympic experience.

Other U of T Olympic connections included Professor Julia Alleyne of family and community medicine who served as Canada's assistant chief medical officer at the Games and alumnus Chris Rudge, chair of the Canadian Olympic Committee.



The communication, culture and technology building at the University of Toronto at Mississauga.



HART HOUSE

hic (latin/"here") art:

18 artists have created an exhibition of contemporary installation, intervention and performance art in non-conventional spaces throughout the House. Seeing is believing, so don't miss out! Runs to April 16.

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How has homophobia changed? Where are all the Queer Women? Has the LGBTQ community become complacent? Homosexuality and Religion.

Mar. 6 • 6-8pm • Debates Room

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A First Nations event for the entire family.



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THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD

-Continued From Page 1-

in the developed world, don't even think about. So we want to bring this image of people carrying water, which millions of people have to do, right to the heart of Toronto and show that there are people who have to do this as part of their daily lives."

The buckets the students carry weighed as much as 10 kilograms. A member of U of T's chapter was in Ghana last summer and brought back stories about how communities would only have running water once every few days. To survive, people — especially women — would have to walk for

miles to get water, Li says. But they would carry containers weighing 20 or 30 kilograms, sometimes several times a day.

Engineers Without Borders promotes human development through access to technology.

The Union Station event was part of National Engineering Week.

Graduate Academic Experience

-Continued From Page 1-

and publishing and delivering papers at scholarly meetings is important preparation," Pfeiffer said.

Gina Trubiani, vice-president (external) of the Graduate Students' Union, said her organization is interested in what happens outside the classroom or laboratory, particularly as it relates to financial support.

"The results were predictable in terms of academic standards," she said, "but there are quite a number of students that don't make it through." She cited lack of funding as a contributor to attrition, a phenomenon which increasingly concerns the GSU.

"A lot of students are concerned over a proposal to expand graduate enrolment across Ontario," she said, citing concerns that increases in graduate enrolment would stretch already scarce resources.

The survey also allows for

comparison with the National Survey of Student Engagement, administered to undergraduates in 2004. Overall, 87.4 per cent of graduate students are pleased with the quality of their overall experience, compared with 73.2 per cent of first-year undergraduates and 71.3 per cent of undergraduates in their final year.

Pfeiffer said the university will

continue to administer the GPSS, likely every other year. She hopes the results of this inaugural survey will focus attention on the distinct values and aspirations of graduate students on campus. "We need to have some discussions about what constitutes community at this level and about interventions that will make graduate students feel more integrated into that community."

Professor Wins Oscar

-Continued From Page 1-

Before Terzopoulos' paper, which applied the principles of physics, computer graphics models were based purely on geometry. "Our paper was the basis of a very popular trend in animation now, which is physics-based modelling," he said.

In the movie *Monsters Inc.*, for example, the character of the little girl, Boo, wore a nightshirt that was simulated using the computer

technique, as was the shaggy blue fur of Sully, the character voiced by actor John Goodman.

Scientific and Technical Awards are presented by the academy for devices, methods, formulas, discoveries or inventions of special and outstanding value to the art and science of motion pictures. Portions of the awards ceremony were taped for inclusion in the March 5 Academy Awards broadcast.

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BOARD BRIEFS



UNIVERSITY ON TRACK TO MEET ENROLMENT TARGETS

PROFESSOR SAFWAT ZAKY, VICE-PROVOST (PLANNING AND BUDGET), PRESENTED the Enrolment Report 2005-06 to Business Board Feb. 27. For the first time, the report combines student enrolment projections with current enrolment data to provide a more comprehensive picture of U of T's student body while tracking enrolment trends. The university has a total enrolment of 71,399 for the 2005-06 academic year, including 62,672 full-time students and 8,727 part-time students. For 2006-07, the report predicts that 12,333 students will enrol via first-entry programs, which puts U of T in a good position to meet its enrolment targets. International students currently make up 9.5 per cent of the student population, the highest level since 1978-79, as the university continues to expand its international recruitment. There are also 10,846 graduate students on campus, a number that is expected to grow to approximately 11,750 in 2006-07. "U of T's steady entrance grade averages (82.7 per cent across the three campuses) speak to the strength of the university's student applicants," said Professor Vivek Goel, vice-president and provost, during the report's discussion session.

INNOVATIONS FOUNDATION TO COME UNDER RESEARCH PORTFOLIO

BUSINESS BOARD HAS APPROVED A MOTION TO MAKE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE Innovations Foundation (UTIF) a university operation. These activities will now be supported within the portfolio of the vice-president (research) and associate provost. "We're making quite a distinct shift," said Cathy Riggall, vice-president (business affairs). "We are refocusing on the mission of transferring knowledge and no longer taking the risks associated with investing in start-up companies." The transfer of operations (including UTIF's 22 employees) back to the university is expected to be complete by April 30 and a search has been initiated for an assistant vice-president (research) and executive director (innovations). The new entity will have a closer relation to faculties, which is expected to help to create stronger culture of disclosure where scientists more readily present their inventions. The Innovations Foundation has worked under a number of business models since its inception as a not-for-profit organization in 1980. An extensive review in 2004 determined that the current business model was deemed not viable on an ongoing basis.

Dentistry Student Is Star

By Karen Kelly

THOMAS YU WASN'T PREPARED FOR the crowd's reaction when he finished playing the piano. "The audience was just electric," he recalled. "They just started roaring and shouting Yu! Yu! and I hadn't even let off my pedal."

Yu admitted he pulled out all the stops at the recent 17th international competition for Outstanding Piano Amateurs in Paris, a competition featuring top-level amateur pianists from 30 countries. He chose highly technical pieces by Franz Liszt and French composer Henri Dutilleux — delighting the home crowd in the prestigious Salle Gaveau but leaving little room for error. His risk paid off: not only did he win top prize from the jurors, but also placed first in judging by the press critics and earned the audience choice award. "I've never experienced anything of that grandiose scale," he said.

Yu started playing piano at four and still practises religiously despite the demands of working toward a master's in periodontology. "I'm in school all day and practise all night, it makes for very long days," he said. As a reward, Yu gets to lead a double

life: mild-mannered dentist by day and intense musician by night. "Dentistry involves a lot of thinking and also a lot of etiquette in terms of dealing with patients," he said. "In music, you're reacting and it also allows me to be more of an animal!"

With offers to perform in Florence, Tokyo and Washington, as well two confirmed dates with the Paris Orchestra, Yu admits he will have to give serious thought on how to keep his life balanced but for now he's enjoying his success.

"This win is an encouragement that I've made the right choices," Yu said. "I think it's a celebration of the fact that there are people who have two passions and don't have to give up either one."



Thomas Yu

Trading Places



STEVE BEHAL

Rotman student Steven Leung trades stocks the old-fashioned way during one session of the third annual Rotman International Trading Competition, held Feb. 24 to 26. A team from Reading (U.K.) bested 37 other teams to win.

Women's Lives Celebrated

By Jenny Hall

WHEN CLARA BRETT MARTIN became the first woman lawyer in the British Empire in 1897, she had already faced years of discrimination and rejection. "According to our historical research into accounts of her life, she had to sit apart from the men in class," said Jane Kidner, assistant dean of the Faculty of Law, "and after graduating, had to make several appeals to the Law Society of Upper Canada in order to be allowed to practise."

Martin is one of 19 Faculty of Law alumnae being honoured on International Women's Day, March 8. The faculty will unveil a new permanent photo exhibit featuring these women who have gone on to distinguished careers in law.

Other events are planned across campus in celebration of International Women's Day.

Celebrants can begin with a free breakfast at the International Student Centre, take in film and poetry readings and end the week with decadent desserts and entertainment at Hart House.

Divine Divas IV is Hart House's annual celebration of Toronto's female talent. This year's slate of performers is hosted by writer and musician Maggie MacDonald, Hart House's writer-in-residence. Audience members will be treated to an array of desserts.

"Celebratory events like International Women's Day are events that help us think about where we've come from, what changes have been made and how we define ourselves," said Connie Guberman, status of women officer.

Guberman's office, together with the Women's Centre at UTM and the women's studies program at UTSC, is sponsoring screenings of the film *Water*, directed by Deepa Mehta. The film will be

screened at each campus and followed by a book signing and question period with Devyani Saltzman, Mehta's daughter and author of *Shooting Water*.

Set in the 1930s against the backdrop of India's struggle for independence from Great Britain, *Water* tells of the taboo relationship a widow has with a man from a lower caste.

The book chronicles the mother-daughter journey as the filmmakers struggled to shoot *Water* with its controversial subject matter.

"We think about women differently now than we did 20 years ago," said Guberman, who said she is pleased the UTSC screening has included an invitation for Indo-Canadian students to bring their mothers. "We don't just think of women as a universal category. It's important to look at women in all our diversity. Women are different and our differences are our strengths."

Music Carries Sound of Change

By Sonnet L'Abbe

ON MARCH 21, MAKE SURE YOU throw a loonie or toonie to that musician playing for change just outside your building — he could be the someone you know.

On the first day of spring, the sound of drums, saxophones, violins and more will fill the air on St. George campus as faculty, staff and students join to celebrate the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The day coincides with the change of season and U of T will mark it with outdoor music offerings that inspire listeners to think about social change.

"All the music that's going to be played will be the music of social movements, about making a difference or challenging the status quo," said Connie Guberman, special adviser on equity issues. "Instead of just talking about

change, people will be able to play and hear the music that moves them."

The full day of activity will begin at noon with a welcome at Hart House and a \$5 lunch. Then musicians — all from the university community — will play for four 20-minute time slots from 10 minutes before to 10 minutes after the hour, the first beginning at 12:50 p.m., the last at 3:50 p.m. The performances will be in high-traffic areas and match the timing of class changes.

The day will close with a colloquium on the role of music and social change, to be held at Hart House, from 4:10 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Panellists include Professor Gage Averill, dean of music, and Professor Rick Halpern, a specialist in modern U.S. history.

The idea, Guberman explained, is to take discussions of equity out of the realm of work reports or

specific projects and into day-to-day life. She envisions people stopping to listen, enjoy and think. "We want to show that working towards equity happens in our daily lives," she said.

Averill will be playing concertina with a pair of colleagues at the Faculty of Music on tin whistle and fiddle. "If you look really closely at important moments of social change, they are always accompanied by a parallel musical movement," he said. "Music can take heartfelt or tense moments and express the emotion in them."

The day's sponsors are the special adviser on equity issues, the anti-racism and cultural diversity office, the Faculty of Music, Hart House and the offices of the vice-president and provost and the vice-president (human resources and equity).

Www.utoronto.ca/soundsofchange.htm offers additional details.

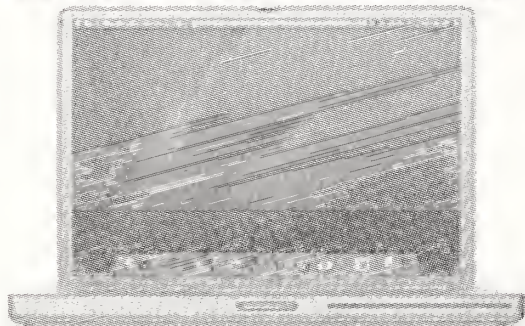
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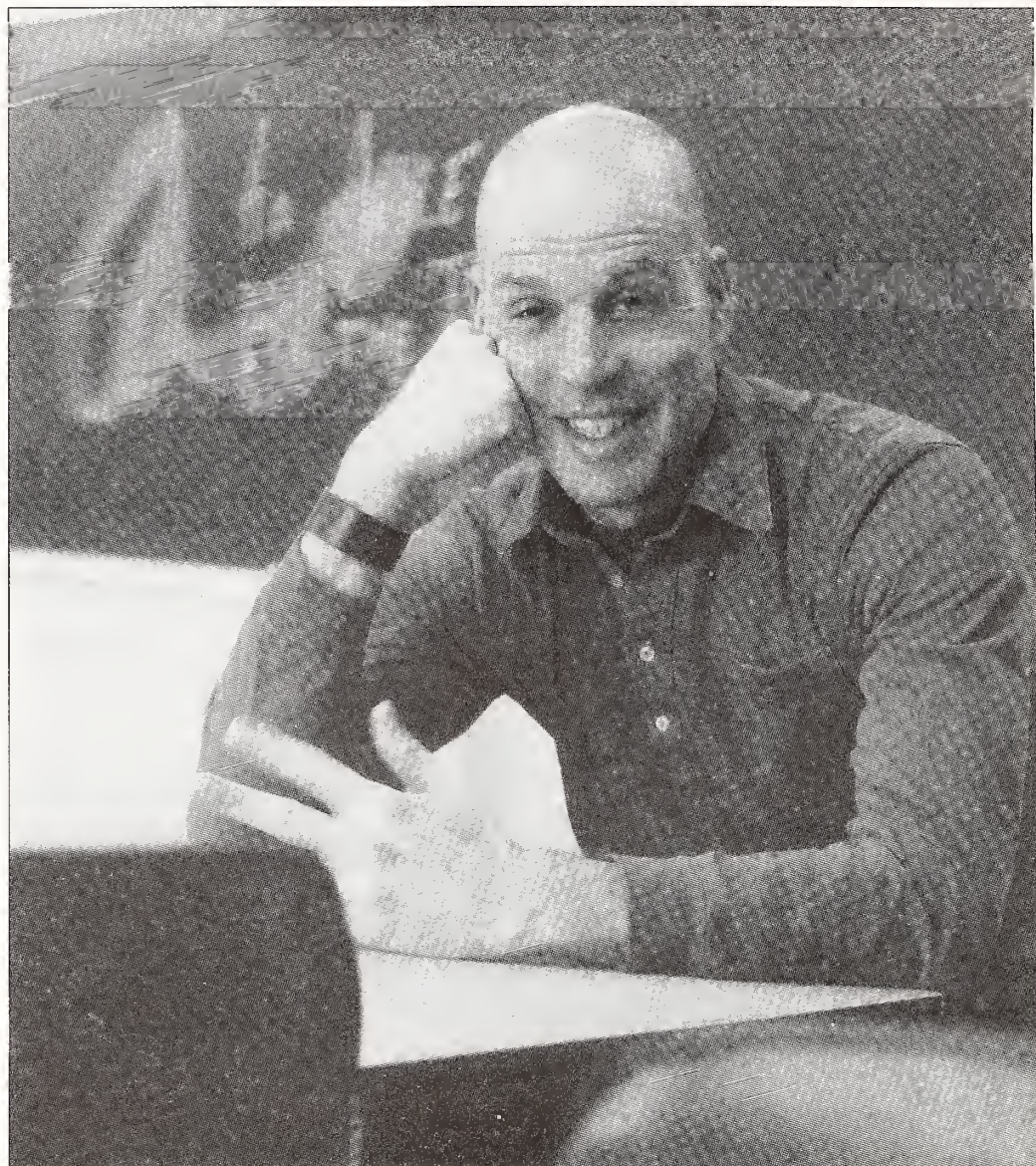
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PROFILE

CREATING SUCCESS

OISE/UT professor studies urban school leadership

By JENNY HALL



DAVID STREET

GETTING SENT TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE, universal punishment for school kids of all ages, wouldn't be so bad if the principal in question were Joseph Flessa. He might call your mom or give you detention but he'd be just as likely to strike up a friendly discussion about how the conditions around you might have contributed to your transgression.

Flessa is a new faculty member at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of U of T (OISE/UT). He comes to the university by way of a PhD from the University of California at Berkeley and stints both teaching and leading schools in the U.S. and Mexico.

"I was an urban public school teacher," he says, "and it was the hardest work I've done to date." Today Flessa still thinks of himself as a teacher but he also researches urban schools and is particularly interested in what makes them succeed, focusing on the interplay between leadership inside the school and the wider social and economic inequalities that often produce school failure.

After earning an undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia, Flessa enrolled in Teach for America, a program similar to the Peace Corps that places university graduates from all fields in urban and rural public schools.

"I taught sixth grade in Houston in a middle school that was 99 per cent Mexican-American and 90 per cent of the students received free or reduced price lunches, which is an indicator of school poverty. Before my Teach for America training, I'd never crossed the Mississippi River, except for one trip to Disneyland. It was a life-changing experience."

After his three years of service, Flessa felt that he needed to learn Spanish in order to better intervene in his students' communities. "So I sold all my possessions and moved to Mexico," he says matter-of-factly.

During his three years in Mexico he picked up

Spanish, as planned — and also ended up with an unexpected opportunity to step in as school headmaster. The transition from teacher to administrator was eye-opening and helped shape his burgeoning research interests as he looked ahead to graduate school. "Being on the other side of the boundary was interesting. The same colleagues who thought I was a terrific teacher were suddenly very angry at me when we'd discuss school policy."

At Berkeley, Flessa focused on urban schools and "the way they seem to manufacture failure and are representative of the real racial and economic inequalities in the U.S." At the same time, though, he wanted to know how principals and school leaders could create success. "How much of the way urban schools are is the result of the society that produced them and how much is the result of the work that people do inside them?" he asked.

He's still asking that question today, in a new context. Participating in a collaborative program with the Toronto District School Board and York Region, Flessa and colleagues at the Centre for Urban Schooling are visiting 20 urban schools that are succeeding despite challenging socioeconomic circumstances. They are conducting surveys and interviews with administrators, teachers, students and parents at each site.

"One of the things I have to figure out," he says of his recent move to Canada, "is how urban educational discourse in Canada is distinct from the U.S." His move north of the border, he says, was partially prompted by the results of the 2004 U.S. federal election.

"Are there disparities according to race, class and economic position here?" he asks. "Is there discrimination here? Yes, of course. But the bottom line is that it's not as deep. Though here just as much as in the United States we have to figure out collectively what to do about it"

SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Of Decoys and Green Tea



MIKE ANDRECHUK

New technique uses photons, physics to foil codebreakers

For governments and corporations in the business of transmitting sensitive data such as banking records or personal information over fibre optic cables, a new system demonstrated by U of T researchers offers the protective equivalent of a fire-breathing dragon.

"Quantum cryptography is trying to make all transmissions secure so this could be very useful for online banking, for example," said Professor Hoi-Kwong Lo of the Centre for Quantum Information and Quantum Control and senior author of a new study about the technique. "The idea can be implemented now because we actually did the experiment with a commercial device."

The study describes the first experimental proof of a quantum decoy technique to encrypt data over fibre optic cable. In quantum cryptography, laser light particles (photons) carry complex encryption keys through fibre optic cables, dramatically increasing the security of transmitted data. Conventional encryption is based on the assumed complexity of mathematical problems that traditional computers can solve. But quantum cryptography is based on fundamental laws of physics — specifically, Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle, which tells us that merely observing a quantum object alters it.

The technique varies the intensity of photons and introduces photonic "decoys," which are transmitted over a 15-kilometre telecommunication fibre. After the signals are sent, a second broadcast tells the receiving computer which photons carried the signal and which were decoys. If a hacker tries to "eavesdrop" on the data stream to figure out the encryption key, the mere act of eavesdropping changes the decoys — a clear sign to the receiving computer that the data has been tampered with.

NICOLLE WAHL

Study looks at impact of O'Hare airport

A new study on Chicago's O'Hare airport will look at this mammoth structure not just as an architectural marvel but also as one of the most environmentally contaminated sites in the region, according to a U of T researcher.

In an upcoming book, Professor Charles Waldheim, associate dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, looks at the complex issues surrounding the evolution of this cutting-edge airport.

In the 1950s O'Hare was the world's biggest and busiest airport and it came to define the jet age, a new cutting-edge model of air travel — but there were no guarantees that it would work. "It introduced the telescope-tube walkway that had travellers walk through a tube rather than climb a staircase into a plane, had mobile bus lounges that carried passengers to the plane as well as betting heavily that the car would be the primary source of travel to the airport. In fact, O'Hare created a massive car garage for 9,000 vehicles that is connected to every gate in the airport."

However, there is a dark side to this success and that is the

environmental damage that made O'Hare one of the most toxic places in the U.S. with regular leakage of Glycol (the substance used to de-ice planes) poisoning the surrounding wetlands and water systems. Also, the airport has full-time wildlife biologists on staff to remove animals that come close to the airport.

MICHAEL RYNOR

Green tea polyphenols may cause liver damage

The polyphenols present in green tea plants or herbs could pose health risks to humans if extracted and packaged in highly concentrated doses, says a new U of T study published in the current issue of *Free Radical Biology and Medicine*.

In small mammals, green and black tea phenolics — a class of chemical compounds found in plants that include polyphenols — have been proven to contain antioxidants that help reduce the risk of cancer and cardiovascular disease. Findings such as these have helped to make these teas popular choices among health-conscious tea drinkers around the world.

Working with a team of graduate students, Professor Peter

O'Brien of pharmacy injected low and concentrated doses of polyphenols into mice. At low doses, "good" polyphenols protected the liver or isolated liver cells against oxygen radicals while "bad" polyphenols caused liver toxicity at high concentrations. "The low concentration is roughly equivalent to what people consume when they drink green or black tea," O'Brien said. "But the health benefits are not clear as only a small amount of the polyphenols in the teas seems to get absorbed across the intestine. We won't know how much is absorbed or metabolized without running large clinical trials involving humans."

O'Brien has no plans to stop drinking green or black tea any time soon but cautions those who might want to exploit the antioxidant and health promoting properties of tea polyphenols against consuming concentrated doses in pill form as this could create more health problems than it might fix. "Our findings demonstrate that there simply isn't enough known at this time to substantiate green tea's health-promoting properties if taken in high concentrations," he said.

ELIZABETH MONIER-WILLIAMS



Statements of Candidates in the Governing Council Election for Administrative Staff

Ballots have been mailed to eligible voters and must be returned to the Office of the Governing Council by 5:00 p.m., Friday, March 17, 2006.

Information on the Governing Council election is available from the elections web site: www.utoronto.ca/govcncl/elections/

Diana Alli

As a dedicated University staff member with over 31 years experience in administration, counselling, advocacy and community partnerships, I look forward to the commitment and challenges of representing you on Governing Council. I have held key positions in the Faculty of Medicine in Community Health, Financial Aid/Awards, Admissions, Undergraduate Medical Education, and presently Student Affairs. I have served on Committees, Task Forces, Advisory Councils, and at local/national levels. I recently completed two terms on Faculty Council. As your representative, I pledge to: respect, support, recognize, communicate, and lobby for our unionized, confidential and professional staff members as our exemplary pillars.

Kevin Howey

I have been a member of the U of T community since 1991. I have worked in three Faculties and two colleges. There are three equally important

pillars that make our university great: our students, faculty and administrative staff. I am extremely proud of the work of the administrative staff and I believe that we play an important role in making this the best university in the country. I would like to be your strong voice at Governing Council and will work to ensure that we have the necessary tools to support the continued excellence of our institution.

Susan Lee

I am committed to enhancing the student experience, employee engagement, work/life balance, and equity and diversity. Over my past 10 years with the Faculty of Physical Education and Health, I have developed programs for students and staff to explore health and fitness experiences, engaged staff in meaningful leadership and committee roles, and created more inviting spaces and programs for workplace wellness. I am an ally for accessibility, equity and diversity, and have actively participated within the Faculty's Equity and Positive Space Committees, and the U of T's Ontarians with Disabilities Act Committee. I seek your support as your staff representative.

Lori May-Cuttriss

Lori May-Cuttriss has worked in an administrative capacity at UofT for 26 years. Lori holds

a degree in Linguistics and is certified in Business and in Teaching-English-as-a-Second-Language.

Lori is running for Governing Council because she believes that administrative staff need an effective voice at the highest level. Since female workers comprise 70% of administrative staff, it is imperative that they are represented on Governing Council. Lori is familiar with governance, having served on Faculty Council for the Faculty of Medicine, the Ontario International Medical Graduate Program and the Committee on the Doctor of Pharmacy Program.

Ron Wener

Ron Wener has worked at the University since 1987. He has helped staff in many roles including Health and Safety Representative, Steward, Grievance Co-chair and WSIB Representative. Ron has served on two Negotiating Committees and as Treasurer on the Executive of Steelworker's Local 1998. He has been a consistent positive leader, assisting staff in resolving workplace issues constructively and efficiently.

The decisions made by Governing Council affect staff on a daily basis. Ron's experience and proven effective voice will ensure that the needs of staff are prominently on the agenda.

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COMMENTARY

QUESTION PERIOD

Supreme Court nomination process worthy

By JACOB ZIEGEL

PUBLIC REACTION WAS SHARPLY DIVIDED WHEN PRIME Minister Steven Harper announced Feb. 21 that his nominee for appointment to the Supreme Court of Canada (who later turned out to be Justice Marshall Rothstein of the Federal Court of Appeal) had agreed to appear before an ad hoc all-party committee of the House of Commons to answer questions about himself and on how he viewed the role of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin of the Supreme Court, the president of the Canadian Bar Association, senior members of the Liberal Party and, surprisingly, some NDP members of Parliament as well, expressed concern that the hearing would turn into a political dogfight. The Supreme Court, we were warned, would be politicized and its exemplary image deeply tarnished in the public eye. Lurking in the background of these criticisms was always recollection of the bruising U.S. Senate judiciary committee nomination hearings on Robert H. Bork and Clarence Thomas and the fear that the same fate could befall candidates appearing before a Canadian parliamentary committee.

Other commentators, of whom I was one, reacted much more positively to the prime minister's announcement. We felt that public scrutiny of the candidate, before confirmation of his appointment, would add a much-needed element of accountability and transparency to the appointment process for members of the Supreme Court.

Fortunately, the pessimists were proved wrong. At the public hearing Feb. 27 Rothstein acquitted himself admirably, with openness, modesty and much good humour. The members of the ad hoc committee were polite and respectful. Their questions were wide ranging but very few could have been construed as compromising the judge's role as a future member of the Supreme Court. Rothstein's answers navigated very tactfully around these danger zones.

There remains, however, this basic question: why *should* candidates for appointment to the Supreme Court be

subjected to public scrutiny when no other judges in Canada are exposed to this ordeal? Why, too, have so many legal academics, political scientists, bar committees and newspaper editorials been so critical in the past of the secrecy surrounding the selection and appointment of Supreme Court judges?

as federal, in cases coming before the court. The Supreme Court's powers exceed those of any cabinet minister, federal or provincial, and of the prime minister of Canada. Supreme Court judgments can, and frequently do, strike down federal or provincial laws found to be incompatible with Canada's Constitution and, since 1982, with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The Canadian charter has vastly increased the court's powers and to an extent that few observers anticipated in 1982. Nevertheless, it was inevitable. Once the genie was out of the bottle it could not be restrained. The open-ended language of the charter and its normative character invites the court — indeed, requires it — to apply its provisions to an enormous variety of situations and to determine the compatibility of government action or inaction in areas never previously subjected to judicial review.

Given these realities, what is surprising is not that Canadians of all stripes want much greater transparency and accountability in the system of appointment of those who control so many facets of their lives, but that the necessary changes should have been deferred for so long. Now that public scrutiny has finally arrived, we should welcome it warmly as likely only to strengthen the quality of Canadian public life and public confidence in the Supreme Court.

Introducing a system of public scrutiny is only one piece of the new mosaic. Other parts of the new mosaic — notably the establishment and terms of reference of a selection committee to compile a short list of candidates when a vacancy arises on the court — have also been introduced but need much further refinement. In the meantime, all of us should be grateful to Rothstein for having put so many ghosts to rest.

He will make a fine and powerful addition to the Supreme Court.

Jacob Ziegel is an emeritus professor of law at the University of Toronto and a frequent commentator on issues of the judicial administration of justice in Canada.




In my view, the explanation for the need for a public process is simple and compelling. The Supreme Court of Canada is one of the most powerful courts in the Western Hemisphere. It has the final word in Canada on all questions of public and constitutional law, including criminal law, but also on all private law questions, provincial as well

MARK CIEKIEWICZ

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They may not leap tall buildings in a single bound like Superman, but scratch the surface of a woman at U of T and you're likely to find someone whose passions and commitment to excellence extend to causes far beyond the boundaries of her university role.

PHOTOGRAPH BY
PASCAL PAQUETTE
STEPHANIE LAKE
(ANDREA GRANT)

CONTRIBUTING

By SONNET L'ABBÉ

FOR FOURTH-YEAR SOCIOLOGY STUDENT EMILY DAURIA, GOING out of her way to get things done just comes naturally.

Dauria first went the extra mile by leaving Buffalo, N.Y., to come to U of T as an international student. Now a Toronto resident for almost four years, Dauria is an exceptional local volunteer whose contributions to her adopted community are shining examples of compassion and volunteerism.

Dauria currently works on a project in Regent Park called Literacy Through Hip Hop that gets kids aged seven to 12 to write about their experiences in hip hop rhymes.

"Working with kids is amazing," Dauria says. "Improving literacy is one positive part of it, but it's so important just to be there for them every day."

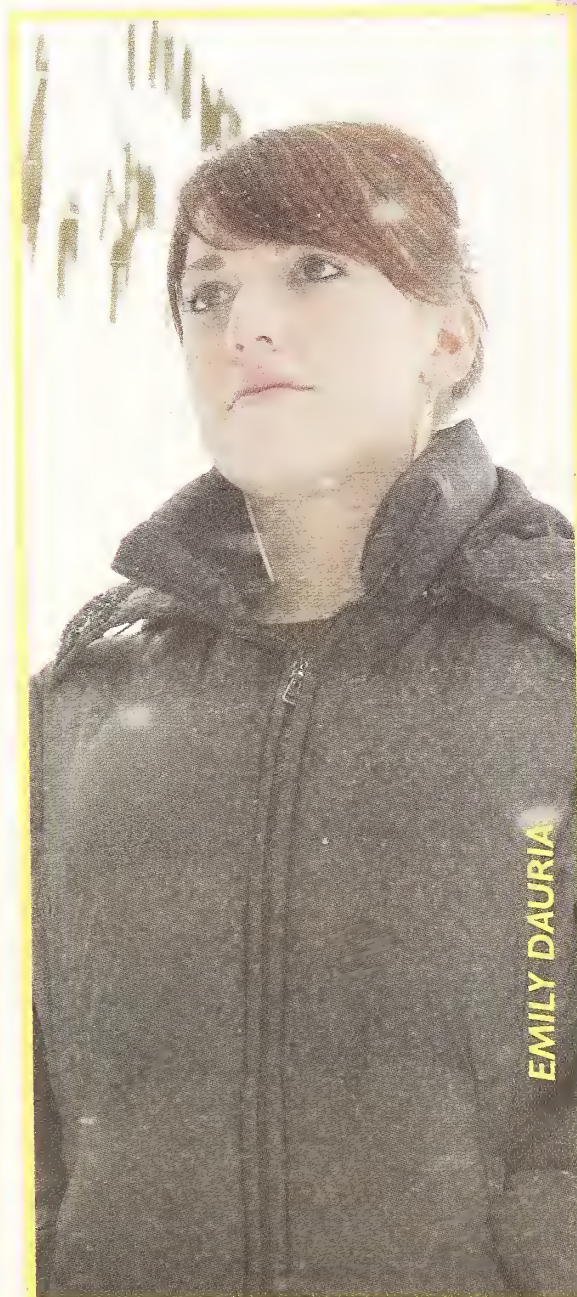
But Dauria's main focus is on AIDS awareness. She has volunteered with the AIDS Committee of Toronto since 2002 and works with them to educate young people about risky sexual behaviours.

This August, she helped start Students United for AIDS Orphans of Africa, a group that raises awareness about the effects of AIDS on African society and its economy and also sponsors AIDS orphans so they can go to school.

Dauria has no personal connection to AIDS, so what made her get so involved? "Being a white female and American, I've had a lot of opportunities that aren't afforded a lot of people," Dauria explains. "AIDS was just something I always wanted to help with."

This is a woman who says she loves to go out of her way to help someone start an initiative.

"I get frustrated by people who don't get involved when they want to," she admits. "It's so easy to say, oh, I'm a student, I have no money. But we're here getting an education. If we just compare our privilege to another's, we can use that to inspire ourselves to help."



EMILY DAURIA

JUGGLING

By NICOLLE WAHL

ANDREA GRANT'S DAY STARTS AT 6 A.M. AND USUALLY ENDS AT midnight. In between, she juggles the roles of mother, student, teacher and aspiring actor. It's all in a day's work for Grant, who has an undergraduate degree in psychology and is now completing the one-year bachelor of education program (primary/junior) in order to become a supply teacher.

Working with young children was a natural choice for Grant. "I like their innocence," she says. "They have these free minds and they're willing to learn." But the kids at school are just one part of Grant's busy life. A single parent, she is also raising a 13-year-old daughter, a 12-year-old son and a four-year-old son whom she lovingly calls her "momma's boy."

Grant's busy schedule demands focus and determination. She gets her children ready for school before leaving her home in Ajax for the university and after a full day of classes or practicums, picks up her youngest at day care and heads home to oversee supper, homework and bedtime. After all the kids are asleep, she starts her own homework — such as lesson plans and research projects on childhood problems in the classroom — and heads to bed, prepared to start all over the next day.

When she's not a full-time student, Grant is also an actor and model. In 2005 she acted in the 50 Cent movie *Get Rich or Die Tryin'* and has had roles in television shows, theatre and commercials.

As a black woman who was raised by a single mother, Grant says it is critical to set a good example for her own children. "I think it's important for my kids to see me going to school and achieving at a higher level," she says. "It's important to be a role model, not just for my kids but for everybody."

Her determination is paying off — her children already have plans to attend university and pursue their dreams. "My daughter is starting Grade 9 in September and she already knows what she wants to do, she knows what school she wants to go to," says Grant proudly. "For me, that's the biggest reward — because I know that I'm influencing her. I want them to know that they can achieve something in life."



ANDREA GRANT

BUILDING

By ELIZABETH MONIER-WILLIAMS

WHEN A FRIEND ASKED CATHY RIGGALL, VICE-PRESIDENT (business affairs), to help organize the YWCA of Greater Toronto's annual Women of Distinction fundraiser in 1995, she didn't think she would be hosting the event 10 years later.

"My friend needed a hand and I'm a compulsive joiner," explains Riggall, who currently serves as president of the board for Greater Toronto's YWCA. "I stayed involved because it's an incredibly well-managed organization and because I identified with their mission, which led to serving on committees and eventually joining the board."

As president of the 18-member board, Riggall has found a way to share many of the skills acquired through her work at U of T with the wider Toronto community. "I deal with finances, investments and construction projects in both roles," she says. "Developing policies to help a non-profit organization walk the tightrope between quality programs and financial viability can be tricky, but it's rewarding, too."

For Riggall, the rewards include meeting those who benefit from the YWCA's work and taking action on social issues that affect Toronto. "That homelessness exists in a city this wealthy is completely appalling to me," she says. "Many people know the YWCA offers training programs and shelter beds but aren't aware that it also creates affordable housing. We're about to build a new 64-unit apartment building with 62 daycare spaces at the 401 and Islington, which is pretty exciting."

Riggall believes that volunteering can always be adapted to mesh with one's lifestyle. "It's important for our society and country that the fortunate and lucky give back to others," she says. "Volunteering allows you to explore your interests — women's issues, athletics, literacy, the environment or something else — and sometimes to accelerate your career growth in ways that your job may not permit. The larger organizations have staff dedicated to matching volunteers' interests to their needs. I think most people find that they get more out of it than they put in."



CATHY RIGGALL

RELATING

By MICHAH RYNOR

YOU CAN FORGIVE DARLENE JOHNSTON IF SHE SOMETIMES FEELS like she's Exhibit A at the Faculty of Law. That's because she remains one of the very few aboriginal law professors in the country. And the positive impact she has on native students isn't lost on her.

"When I first came to the university in 2001 I talked to some aboriginal students who felt quite lost because there just weren't that many native staff, faculty or students at U of T," Johnston says, "so when I arrived on the scene one of the students said it felt like Mary Poppins dropping in because suddenly there was someone they could relate to."

For one thing, Johnston says, there are very unique risks involved for aboriginal students attending law school "because they often feel that they are going to lose their connection to their community and they fear that just by studying law it will change the way they think about legal issues and subjects, because the law has historically been used to oppress their people. And so these students come in with strong doubts about whether they can survive at U of T, and once here, worry about the risks associated with absorbing the legal mindset."

A member of the Chippewas of Nawash First Nation, Johnston continues to work with her people on a variety of land issues. As well, she has contributed to the ongoing Ipperwash inquiry (which is examining the death of native activist Dudley George) and sits on a panel for the auditor general of Canada on First Nations issues. And she is very involved with the Faculty of Law's international human rights clinic where she advises the Mayan people in Belize on how to defend their land claims — an especially important contribution since there are no Mayan lawyers in this small Central American country.

"I think aboriginal professors, especially women professors, encounter challenges that other professors don't," she says, remembering her own feelings of isolation and otherness. However, she remains ever hopeful that U of T's recruitment efforts will continue to pay off and more native Canadians will find their way to U of T's doorstep.



DARLENE JOHNSTON

EDUCATING

By KAREN KELLY

EDUCATING HERSELF AND OTHERS IS SECOND NATURE TO AUDREY DENNIE.

Dennie is an executive assistant at the School of Continuing Studies (SCS). She first arrived at the university in 1988 through a ministry workforce program for young mothers — having gone straight from high school to motherhood. She worked in the personnel department for four months until landing a clerical job in rehab medicine. Throughout the years she's worked in many places in the university, furthering her skills and education.

Now, she's also helping to others to stretch their boundaries through her volunteer efforts at the university and as a board member for Arts Etobicoke. Last year, for example, she organized two public events at SCS. One was called The Meaning of Marriage, the other, Homophobia, Culture or Tradition? Panellists at the latter event included author and playwright Tomsom Highway; Samuel Chow, an artist, educator and community activist; Zahra Dhanani, a lawyer, social activist and DJ; David Rayside, head of the sexual diversity studies program; and Rinaldo Walcott, Canada Research Chair in social justice and cultural studies.

Growing up in a Caribbean community, Dennie says that homosexuality wasn't discussed openly. The panel discussion helped break this silence. "We were able to share our experiences of homophobia and learn from each other," Dennie says. "I wanted to educate people as to what it does to our communities."

Having worked at U of T for almost 20 years, the mother of five has met many openly gay people she credits for broadening her perspective. "My experience here has made me a person who thinks about equity and diversity," she says. "I talk openly with my children about topics such as homophobia."

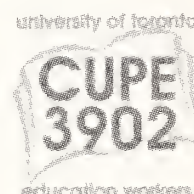
Dennie's efforts have had a lasting effect on her colleagues.

"She has an impact in many different ways and I am constantly in awe of her," says Karina Dahlin, communications director at SCS. "She's assertive, she's kind and thoughtful. She's a role to model for woman of all ages."



AUDREY DENNIE

Open Letter from CUPE 3902



After 280 days without a contract and after much debate, CUPE 3902 members ratified a new collective agreement with the University of Toronto that improves the working conditions of teaching assistants, course instructors, lab demonstrators, markers, invigilators and tutors. Under the new agreement our **wages will catch up** with *some* costs-of-living increases; members, spouses and children will have access to **improved dental coverage** and **new Health Care Spending Accounts**; and Masters students will receive **equal pay for equal work**. These are significant gains, hard won from the University of Toronto. The University's refusal to move on some non-monetary issues, however, was hard to accept in light of the administration's self-congratulatory messages about equity, family-friendliness, and teaching excellence. This letter is a public notice of agreement, but also of vigilance, that CUPE 3902 sees this agreement as a starting point to ongoing discussion, a minimum standard to be met and exceeded.

Part of the University's mission is "insisting on the importance of teaching... recognizing excellence in teaching and providing opportunities to improve teaching." Given the essential role of our members in teaching, the University was surprisingly averse to putting money towards this mission statement. Granted, the new agreement sees good-faith wording on smaller tutorial sizes and provides new training opportunities for TAs. **It could have gone much further, capping tutorial sizes.** Students at our Scarborough campus, for instance, who often attend tutorials of over 40 people, know how difficult it is to participate effectively in big groups.

Good teaching requires time, preparation, and security. Yet the University remained steadfast in its refusal to lower the work hours in the guaranteed package. This agreement is the first that **does not reduce the work hours** in the package. Negotiators also refused to restrict the *kind* of work required of our members. Finally, **whatever Queen's Park announces, the University has assured our members protection from tuition increases of over 4%, but has provided no details of how this will happen.** These are serious concerns for TAs and students that will take concrete steps, not good-faith wording, to address.

The University has similarly taken only a faltering first step with regard to TAs facing personal, racial, and ethnic harassment by acknowledging equity issues for our members. But, to live up to the gloss of its Equity posters and the rhetoric of Professor Angela Hildyard, Vice-President Human Resources *and Equity*, the U of T could have been more forthcoming on equity issues at our bargaining table. For instance, and only as an obvious example, it could have covered the basic health insurance costs for international student teachers outside of the funded cohort. For an institution leading a visible and concerted campaign of "equal opportunity, equity and justice... in all activities," to **deny certain employees health coverage costs** is not morally defensible.

Any commitment to equity recognizes that women should not be professionally penalized for pregnancy and childcare. Our collective agreement offers some protection on this basis, and we insisted on these in this round of negotiations, winning a modest but significant fund of \$200,000 over 3 years which we will direct to childcare. The University **refused, however, to earmark childcare money**, not wanting to set a precedent. It also **refused to provide our members EI top-ups for pregnancy leaves**, as it does for other employees. For graduate students with families, who often face high rates of poverty, this seems beyond disingenuous on U of T's part.

Tooting its equity horn, the University of Toronto administration recently issued a press release about how family-friendly it is as an employer: "The University also offers employees flexible work arrangements, tuition waivers, family and float days, a generous sick leave policy and top-up payments for maternity and adoption leave. It also provides assistance to employees who are dealing with elder-care issues." **None of this is true for its student employees.** Again, the University's rhetoric is far more generous than its bargaining position.

CUPE 3902 members are at the heart of the University of Toronto, as both students and teachers here. As such, we expect more from the University of Toronto as a public-sector employer committed to fostering a vibrant and healthy community. This means that the collective agreement that steers us through to 2008 is a baseline and not a ceiling for fostering teaching excellence, equity, and family-friendliness.

Sincerely,

CUPE Local 3902

CUPE 3902 would like to thank the Graduate Students' Union, the Students' Administrative Council, the Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students, CUPE Locals 3261, 3907, and 1230, and Steelworkers Local 1998, for standing in solidarity with our members throughout these negotiations. We continue to work together to hold the University of Toronto accountable to students, teachers and staff.



LETTERS



CELIBACY A PRACTICE, NOT A SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Professor Robert Magosci writes to express his "deep sorrow" that the university's equity census does not include celibacy as a category under its entirely optional question regarding membership in a sexual minority.

I may be missing something but it looks to me as if he has failed to understand an important point (Celibacy Left Out of Sexual Equation, Letters, Feb. 20). Gay, lesbian, two-spirited, queer and transgendered are categories open to negotiation or even doubt but they are all categories that express identity. Celibacy, however, is a category relating to practice and not, as he claims, to sexual orientation. One can be gay and celibate or lesbian and celibate and so forth. If one does ask about celibacy, however, one ought logically to multiply the possibilities endlessly to include a full range between those who choose to do it every night and those who choose never to do it at all, while making room for those who only indulge on Christmas Day right after the Queen's speech to the Commonwealth.

Another point that does not seem to come home to him is that it is difficult to do one's job as well as one's colleagues if one feels that one is treated less well than they are and for reasons that are not within one's control. A lesbian, be she celibate or happily banging an entire softball team once a day and twice on Sundays, cannot easily perform at the top of her game if she happens to be the only member of her sexual minority in a department where all her colleagues are heterosexuals,

celibate or otherwise, who despise her for her sexual orientation. In short, this is a shamefully unfair world and membership in a sexual minority can indeed be a matter of employment equity and hence of effectiveness as well as justice. Of course, celibates too may in principle be the victims of discrimination that has a negative impact on their performance in a given job. I confess, however, that I am inclined to think that, in this country at least, celibates do not suffer excessively in this regard. And I can think of at least one sovereign nation where celibacy is usually a fundamental job requirement.

Like Professor Magosci, I felt some anxiety on being asked to declare my sexual orientation on a survey that records one's personnel number and date of birth. Members of sexual minorities have plenty of historical grounds to worry about the consequences of making such information known to those in authority over them. I might feel more sympathy, however, for Professor Magosci's concern, as for his "deep sorrow," if he were not, as it seems, entirely happy to tell the whole of campus that he isn't getting any and that he is fine with that.

MICHAEL DEWAR
CLASSICS

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE MORE THAN GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Professor Andrew Miall raises a number of legitimate concerns to which I am sympathetic (Environmental Turnaround, Forum, Feb. 20). We certainly both agree that the teaching of environmental science requires an interdisciplinary approach. I would add two thoughts, however, for readers to consider.

First, it is important to remember that a genuine interdisciplinary program in environmental science must include not only the geological sciences but other fields such as those taught through the ecology and evolutionary biology, chemistry,

physics and geography departments and the medical and applied sciences and engineering faculties — and many others. Professor Miall is right to point out that "when reduced to their basic scientific foundation, many environmental issues involve rocks, soils and water." However, the complexity of environmental problems means that a host of other issues are implicated as well and they too are properly captured under the rubric of "environmental science." Ensuring that these multiple scientific voices are heard in any program planning is a serious challenge and one that may not be easily addressed through a traditional departmental structure.

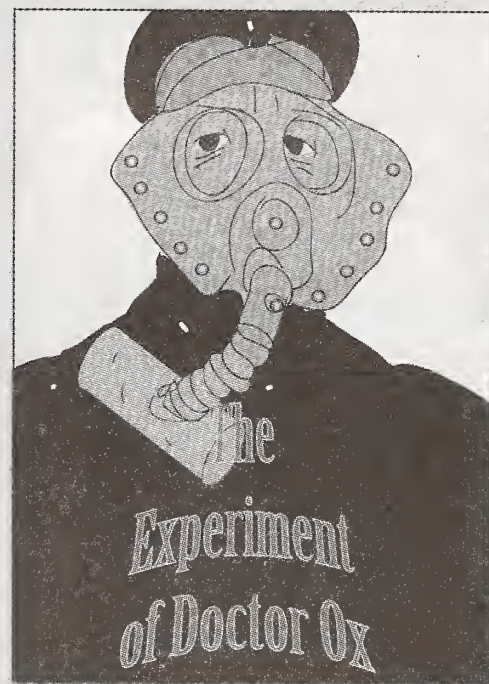
Second, while "environmental science" is a growing field, we must take special care in curriculum development to avoid pedagogical separation of the sciences from the social sciences and the humanities. (I do believe that Professor Miall agrees with me on this point.) My own area of research in environmental ethics has evolved as an interdisciplinary dialogue among philosophy, ecology and other disciplines. It is important to ensure that opportunities for genuine interdisciplinary exchange are fostered in our undergraduate and graduate environmental programs — many of which continue to benefit, to some degree, from collaborative program models as well.

INGRID LEMAN STEFANOVIC
CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT

LETTERS DEADLINES

MARCH 17 FOR MARCH 27
MARCH 31 FOR APRIL 10

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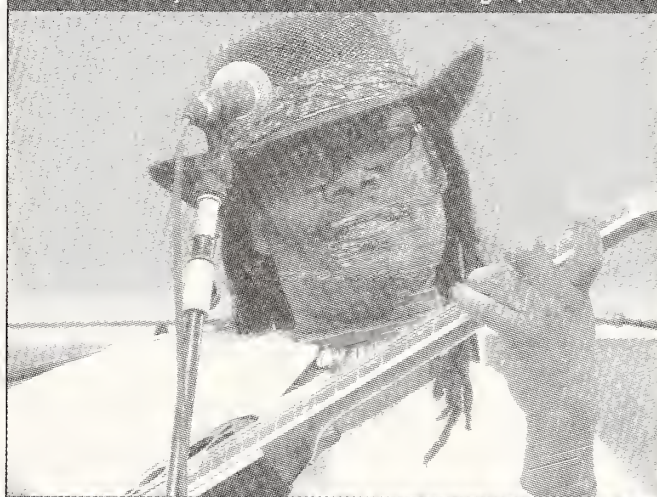
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Vacation/Leisure

Summer homes for rent in Newfoundland. 3 bedrooms, fully equipped kitchens, washer/dryer. Beautiful ocean views. \$700/week. Contact Mark/Judie, 709-754-6047. www.goliathweb.com/bauline

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Nice. French Riviera. Modern apartment, furnished, equipped for two, close to all amenities, 10 minutes from the sea, 30 minutes from ski area. Minimum 2 weeks. Call 905-569-9085.

Ring of Kerry S.W. Ireland. Sabbatical, writer's retreat or just a great vacation. Toronto-owned, centrally heated, fully furnished, equipped, ¼-acre garden, overlooking Atlantic, Kenmare Bay, cozy with fireplace and Irish pine furniture, three-bedroom home (two doubles/one twin) available June, August, September. Private, short walk to Caherdaniel Village, pubs, vast beaches. Lake/ocean fishing, hill-hiking, golf nearby. Weekly: August \$880 June/September \$630. edgarcowan@hotmail.com

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Housesitting

Responsible, reliable, retired librarian available March 16 to May 30. Newfoundlander who loves cats, dogs, and dog walking. This is my fourth consecutive winter here so I have many Toronto references. patatilley@yahoo.com, 416-322-9991.

HEALTH SERVICES

REGISTERED MASSAGE THERAPY. For relief of muscle tension, chronic pains and stress. Treatments are part of your extended health care plan. 170 St. George Street (at Bloor). For appointment call Mindy Hsu, B.A., R.M.T. 416-944-1312.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

PERSONAL COUNSELLING in a caring, confidential environment. U of T extended health benefits provide excellent coverage. Dr. Ellen Greenberg, Registered Psychologist, Medical Arts Building, 170 St. George Street. 416-944-3799.

Dr. Gina Fisher, Registered Psychologist. Individual, couple, marital therapy. Depression, anxiety, loss, stress, work, family, relationship, self-esteem problems; sexual orientation and women's issues. U of T health benefits apply. 180 Bloor St. W., ste. 806. 416-961-8962.

PSYCHOANALYTIC PSYCHOTHERAPY with a registered psychologist. Dr. June Higgins, 131 Bloor St. W. (Bloor and Avenue Road). 416-928-3460.

Psychologist providing individual and couple therapy. Work stress, anxiety, depression, personal and relationship concerns. U of T health plan covers cost. Dr. Sarah Maddocks, Registered Psychologist, 114 Maitland Street Wellesley & Jarvis). 416-972-1935, ext. 3321.

Dr. Neil Pilkington (Psychologist). Assessment and individual, couples and group cognitive-behaviour therapy for: anxiety/phobias, depression/low self-esteem, stress and anger management, couples issues and sexual identity/orientation concerns. Staff/faculty healthcare benefits provide full coverage. Morning, afternoon and evening appointments. Downtown/TTC. 416-977-5666. E-mail Dr.Neil.Pilkington@primus.ca

Psychotherapy for personal and relationship issues. Individual, group and couple therapy. U of T extended health plan provides coverage. For a consultation call Dr. Heather A. White, Psychologist, 416-535-9432, 140 Albany Avenue (Bathurst/Bloor).

Evelyn Sommers, Ph.D., Psychologist, provides psychotherapy and counselling for individuals and couples from age 17. Covered under U of T benefits. Yonge/Bloor. Visit www.ekslibris.ca; call 416-413-1098; e-mail for information package, eks@passport.ca

Individual psychotherapy for adults. Evening hours available. Extended benefits coverage for U of T staff. Dr. Paula Gardner, Registered Psychologist, 114 Maitland St. (Wellesley and Jarvis). 416-469-6317.

Dr. Cindy Wahler, Registered Psychologist. Yonge/St. Clair area. Individual and couple psychotherapy. Depression, relationship difficulties, women's issues, health issues, self-esteem. U of T extended healthcare plan covers psychological services. 416-961-0899. cwahler@sympatico.ca

Dr. Carol Musselman, Registered Psychologist. Psychotherapy for depression, anxiety, trauma and other mental health needs, relationship problems, issues related to gender, sexual orientation, disability. Covered by extended health plans. 455 Spadina (at College), #211. 416-568-1100 or cmusselman@oise.utoronto.ca; www.carolmusselman.com

Swedish massage, acupuncture, naturopathy, other alternative medicine services. Direct insurance billing available for U of T staff. 80 Bloor St. W., suite 1100. 416-929-6958. www.PacificWellness.ca

Psychoanalysis & psychoanalytic psychotherapy for adolescents, adults, couples. U of T extended health benefits provide coverage. Dr. Klaus Wiedermann, Registered Psychologist, 1033 Bay St., ste. 204, tel: 416-962-6671.

Rosemary Hazelton Ph.D., Dipl., TCPP. Psychotherapy for adults, couples, children and adolescents. Relationship and self-esteem difficulties; symptoms of anxiety and depression; effects of abuse, trauma, separation and loss. Telephone 416-486-5528 (Yonge & Summerhill). rhazelton@rogers.com

Hypnosis & psychotherapy for adults. Trauma, depression, anxiety, panic, phobia, stress, chronic illness, relationship, self-esteem, habit control, U of T health plan coverage. Dr. Kathleen Lung, Registered Psychologist. Finch subway.

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University student seeking babysitting work beginning May 10 to August 31. Experienced babysitter, will do light housekeeping & care for pets. Attending summer school, available weekdays. Excellent references. 416-825-1481.

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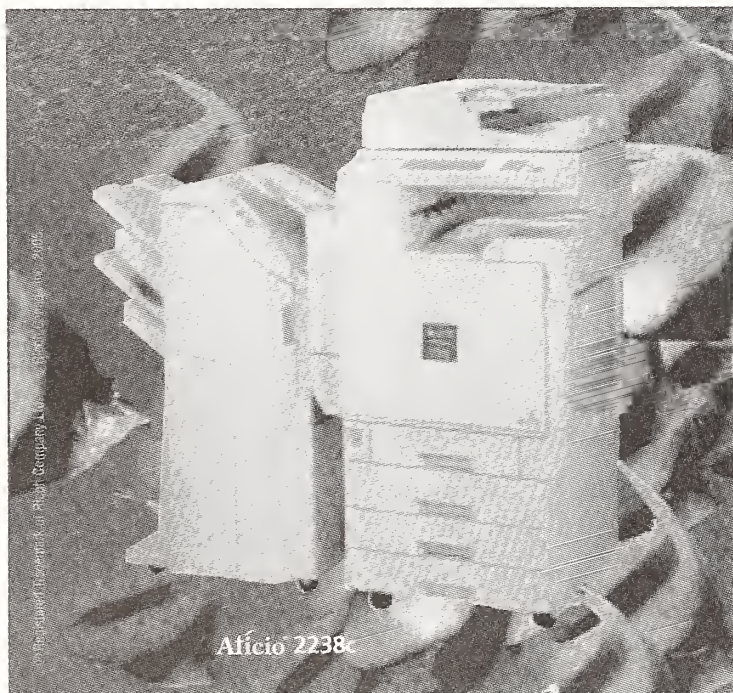
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EVENTS



LECTURES

Riga: A UNESCO Heritage City.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Andris Roze, International urban architect. Alumni Hall, Old Victoria College Building. 4:15 p.m. *Friends of Victoria University Library*

Reconstructing Ancient Population Histories From Survey Data: Preliminary Insights From Antikythera.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Prof. James Conolly, Trent University. 119 Northrop Frye Hall, Victoria University. 5:30 to 7 p.m. *Archaeological Institute of America, Toronto Chapter*

Science: Knowledge for Mortals.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Prof. Dwayne Miller, chemistry; Science & Society series. Combination Room, Trinity College. 7:30 p.m. Reservations: 416-978-2651; alumni@trinity.utoronto.ca. *Trinity College*

The Agony and the Ecstasy of Motherhood in Italian-Canadian Literature.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Prof. Vera Golini, St. Jerome's University. Madden Hall, Carr Hall, St. Michael's College, 100 St. Joseph St. 7:30 p.m. *Frank Iacobucci Centre for Italian Canadian Studies*

The Assyrian Occupation of Egypt, 671-662 BC: Weighing the Egyptian Evidence.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Prof. Donald Redford, Pennsylvania State University; A.K. Grayson lecture on Assyrian history and culture. 108 Koffler Institute for Pharmacy Management. 8 p.m. *Canadian Society for Mesopotamian Studies*

Reinventing Beckett.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

Prof. S.E. Gontarski, Florida State University; Samuel Beckett at 100 series. Robert Gill Theatre, Koffler Student Services Centre. 2 p.m. Information: 416-978-7986. *Study of Drama*

More Than Meets the Eye: Movies in American Studies.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

Prof. Lauren Rabinovitz, University of Iowa. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. 2 to 4 p.m. *Study of the United States*

Discipline and Narrative: Historians, Publishers and History Books in Britain, 1850-1914.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

Prof. Leslie Howsam, University of Windsor. Room 30, Woodsworth College Residence, 321 Bloor St. W. 4:15 p.m. *Toronto Centre for the Book*

Is God All in Your Head? Science, Belief and the Human Brain.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

Prof. Michael Persinger, Laurentian University and Robert Buckman, Humanist Association of Canada. Auditorium, Medical Sciences Building. 7 p.m. Tickets \$8, students \$4; secular.sa.utoronto.ca. *Toronto Secular Alliance*

Journeying Through the Exercises of St. Ignatius.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

Monty Williams, Regis College. Elliott MacGuigan Hall, 67 St. Nicholas St. 7:30 p.m. *Regis College*

Making Public Buildings.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

David Adjaye, Adjaye/Associates, London, U.K. Room 103, 230 College St. 6:30 p.m. *Architecture, Landscape & Design*

Women in Canada: From Non-Persons to Full Participation — A Legal and Political Perspective.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

Annamarie Castrilli, former Ontario politician. Madden Hall, Carr Hall, St. Michael's College, 100 St. Joseph St. 7:30 p.m. *Frank Iacobucci Centre for Italian Canadian Studies*

For the Stuarts, the Grave Risks of Fresh Fruit.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

Prof. Alan Shepard, University of Guelph. Senior Common Room, Burwash Hall, Victoria College, 89 Charles St. 4:15 p.m. *Reformation & Renaissance Studies and Toronto Renaissance & Reformation Colloquium*

Chemical Forces That Stabilize Proteins.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Prof. Ronald Raines, University of Wisconsin at Madison; Peter Yates lecture. Davenport Seminar Rooms, Lash Miller Chemical Laboratories. 10 a.m. *Chemistry*

Rhetorical Natives: Didactic Propaganda and Its Publics in the Spanish Philippines.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Prof. Smita Lahiri, Harvard University. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. Noon to 2 p.m. Registration: webapp.mcis.utoronto.ca. *Asian Institute*

Stumbling Upon Peter? The Question of the Church in Contemporary Ecumenical Dialogue.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Prof. Phil Zeigler, Atlantic School of Theology. Elliott MacGuigan Hall, 67 St. Nicholas St. 7:30 p.m. *Regis College*

Jaina Temples in India: The Development of a Distinct Language in Architecture and Ritual.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

Prof. Julia Hegewald, University of Heidelberg. Combination Room, Trinity College. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. *South Asian Studies, Asian Institute and New College*

Exhibiting Others: Early Modern Costume Books in France and Italy.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Prof. Ann Rosalind Jones, Smith College. Alumni Hall, Old Victoria College Building. 4:15 p.m. *Reformation & Renaissance Studies*

Recent Work.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Christophe Girot, Atelier Girot, Zürich. Room 103, 230 College St. 6:30 p.m. *Architecture, Landscape & Design*

Emerging Infectious Diseases and the North-South Paradigm: The Great Equalizers.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Prof. Kelly MacDonald, medicine; Science & Society series. Combination Room, Trinity College. 7:30 p.m. Reservations: 416-978-2651; alumni@trinity.utoronto.ca.

Costume, Custom and Change: The Ends(s) of the Costume Book.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Prof. Ann Rosalind Jones, Smith College. Alumni Hall, Old Victoria College Building. 4:15 p.m. *Reformation & Renaissance Studies*

Climate Change Through Earth's History: What the Rock Record Tells Us.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Prof. Rick Eyles, geology. 432 Ramsay Wright Zoological Laboratories. 4:30 p.m. *Sigma Xi, U of T Chapter*

Global Unions, Global Companies and Cross-Border Campaigns.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Prof. Kate Bronfenbrenner, Cornell University; annual Sefton lecture. Faculty Club, 41 Willcocks St. 7 p.m. *Woodworth College and Industrial Relations & Human Resources*

Talk About Landscape.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

Prof. Enoch Brater, University of Michigan. Robert Gill Theatre, Koffler Student Services Centre. 2 p.m. Information: 416-978-7986. *Study of Drama*

Before Person and Action: Existential Situations, States and Passions.

MONDAY, MARCH 27

Prof. Philip Fisher, Harvard University; first of four Alexander lectures on New Words for Old Stories. 140 University College. 4:30 p.m. *University College*

Liberty, Equality, Fraternity and Industry: Economic Consequences of the French Revolution.

MONDAY, MARCH 27

Prof. James Robinson, Harvard University; 2006 Malin Harding visitorship. 610 Health Sciences Building. 5:30 to 7 p.m. *Economics and Political Science*

The Fine Grain of Action: Episodes, Stages, Moves.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

Prof. Philip Fisher, Harvard University; second of four Alexander lectures on New Words for Old Stories. 140 University College. 4:30 p.m. *University College*

Architecture Against Itself.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

Peter Eisenman, Eisenman Architects, New York. Room 103, 230 College St. 6:30 p.m. *Architecture, Landscape & Design*

Earth Evolution and Climate: A Brief History.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

University Prof. Richard Peltier, physics; University Professor series. George Ignatieff Theatre, 15 Devonshire Place. 7:30 p.m. *Global Knowledge Foundation, Arts & Science and Elderwood Foundation*

COLLOQUIA

Mysticism and Justice — With Reference to Underhill.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Gerald Loweth, ThD student, Trinity College; advanced degree students circle. Abbott Room, St. Hilda's College. 3 to 5 p.m. *Faculty of Divinity*

The Persistence of Religious Ideologies: What Would Marx and Mill Have Thought!

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

Bob Rae, former premier of Ontario; Religion, International Diplomacy and Economics series. 208N Munk Centre

for International Studies. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Registration: webapp.mcis.utoronto.ca. *Trinity College, International Studies and Study of Religion*

Networking Ohio Valley Archeology in the 1880s: The Social Dimensions of Smithsonian and Peabody Centralization.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

Conor Burns, Institute for the History & Philosophy of Science & Technology. 323 Old Victoria College Building. 4 p.m. *History & Philosophy of Science & Technology*

Matisse's Goldfish.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

Prof. Alison Syme, Centre for Visual & Media Culture, U of T at Mississauga. After-Images series. Room 103, 230 College St. 5 p.m. *Fine Art*

Ethical Issues in Research Involving Refugees and Non-Status Migrants.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Laura Simich, Centre for Addiction & Mental Health. Room 801, Clarke site, 250 College St. Noon. *Addiction & Mental Health*

Culture, Intelligence and Education.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Prof. Robert Steinberg, Yale University. 9-105 OISE/UT, 252 Bloor St. W. 12:30 to 2 p.m. *Human Development & Applied Psychology, OISE/UT*

Kyoto Protocol Negotiations and Implicit Ethico-Religious Principles.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

Christopher Lind, Toronto School of Theology, and David Hallman, World Council of Churches; Religion, International Diplomacy and Economics series. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Registration: webapp.mcis.utoronto.ca. *Trinity College, International Studies and Study of Religion*



SEMINARS

Long-Term Care in Ontario: Profiling Residents and Facilities Over Time.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Prof. Susan Bronskill, health policy, management and evaluation. Suite 106, 222 College St. Noon to 1:30 p.m. *Life Course & Aging*

Organizing Activity in the Murine Allantois Directs Elongation and Vascular Patterning.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Prof. Karen Downs, University of Wisconsin at Madison. 968 Mt. Sinai Hospital. Noon. *Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute*

Emerging Science, Technology and Governance Issues for the Great Lakes.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Prof. Gail Krantzberg, McMaster University. 1210 Bahen Centre for Information Technology. 4 p.m. *Environment*

Effects of Organohalogens on Reproductive Health in the Cree of James Bay.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

Prof. Bruce Wainman, McMaster University. 113 Koffler Institute for Pharmacy Management. 4 p.m. *Environment*

Parallel Worlds: The Evolution of Real and Virtual Communities.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

Panel: Rodney Hoinkes and Stacey Spiegel, Immersions Studios Inc.; Prof. John Danahy, Faculty of Architecture, Landscape & Design, moderator; Dissolving Boundaries series. 1200 Bahen Centre for Information Technology. 4 to 5:30 p.m. *Knowledge Media Design Institute*

Neighbourhood Associations in Japan: How Do They Function as Planning Instruments?

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

Prof. Shizuka Hashimoto, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. 208N Munk Centre for International Studies. Noon to 2 p.m. Registration: webapp.mcis.utoronto.ca. *Asian Institute*

Eurasia Before Eurasianism.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

Prof. Stephen Kotkin, Princeton University. 208N Munk Centre for International Studies. 3 to 5 p.m. Registration: webapp.mcis.utoronto.ca. *European, Russian & Eurasian Studies*

What's Three and What Isn't? Thinking About Texts, Truths and Analysis.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

Prof. Pamela Moss, University of Victoria. 410 Haultain Building. Noon. *Qualitative Inquiry Group*

Diary of a Deportation Officer: Polish and German Exile From Ukraine in 1936.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

Prof. Kate Brown, University of Maryland. 208N Munk Centre for International Studies. 4 to 6 p.m. Registration: www.utoronto.ca/ceres/. *Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine and European, Russian and Eurasian Studies*

The Modifying Effects of Genetics on Exposure-Outcome Relationships.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

Christine Ambrosone, Roswell Park Cancer Institute. 968 Mt. Sinai Hospital. Noon. *Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute*

Quality of Life in Alzheimer's Disease: Whose Quality of Life Is It Anyway?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

Prof. Gary Naglie, medicine. Suite 106, 222 College St. Noon to 1:30 p.m. *Life Course & Aging*

Computer-Assisted Screening for Intimate Partner Violence in Primary Care.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

Farah Ahmad, Institute of Medical Sciences; Prof. Ellen Hodnett, Faculty of Nursing, discussant. 618 Health Sciences Building. 3 to 5 p.m. *Health Care, Technology & Place*

Citizen Movements, Civil Society and the Creation of New Civic Spaces in Tokyo.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

Prof. Andre Sorensen, geography. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. 2 to 4 p.m. Registration: webapp.mcis.utoronto.ca. *Asian Institute*

Biological Markers in Environmental Research.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

Prof. Pat Harper, pediatrics. 113 Koffler

EVENTS

Institute for Pharmacy Management.
4 p.m. Environment

Extinction and Difference.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Prof. Jonathan Boyarin, University of Kansas. 2098 Sidney Smith Hall. Noon to 2 p.m. *Diaspora & Transnational Studies*

Foreign Funding and Attempts at Judicial Reform in India: A Preliminary Assessment.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Prof. Jayanth Krishnan, William Mitchell College of Law. 3130 Sidney Smith Hall. 2 to 4 p.m. *Political Science, South Asian Studies, Asian Institute, Law and International Studies*

Renaissance Gothic: The Functions, Authority and Sacrality of Gothic Architecture Around 1500 in Northern Europe.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Prof. Matt Kavalier, fine art. 205 Northrop Frye Hall, Victoria University. 8 p.m. *Reformation & Renaissance Studies*

Placental Hormones: Potential New Clinical Implications.

MONDAY, MARCH 20

Prof. Felice Petraglia, University of Siena. 968 Mt. Sinai Hospital. 4 p.m. *Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute*

George Luckyj and His Contemporaries: Research of the Scholar's Correspondence in the Context of Ukrainian Culture.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Prof. Olha Luchuk, Petro Jacyk visiting scholar. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. Noon to 2 p.m. Registration: www.utoronto.ca/ceres/. *Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine*

High-Throughput Exploration of Natural Product-Like Chemical Space: Quest for Dissecting Signalling Networks by Small Molecules.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Prof. Jeff Wrana, medical genetics and

microbiology. 968 Mt. Sinai Hospital. Noon. *Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute*

Operatic Degeneration and Regeneration: The Last Creative Years of Richard Wagner and Giuseppe Verdi.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Profs. Linda Hutcheon, English, and Michael Hutcheon, medicine. Suite 106, 222 College St. Noon to 1:30 p.m. *Life Course & Aging*

Energy Efficiency and Conservation in Ontario.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Peter Love, Ontario Power Authority. 1210 Bahen Centre for Information Technology. 4 p.m. Environment

Beyond Ryan.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Panel: Cris Landreth, Seneca College and the Ryan crew from computer science; Prof. Karan Singh, computer science, moderator; Dissolving Boundaries series. 1200 Bahen Centre for Information Technology. 4 to 5:30 p.m. *Knowledge Media Design Institute*

The Korean Welfare State: A Paradox of Expansion in an Era of Globalization and Economic Crisis?

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

Prof. Soonman Kwon, Seoul National University. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. Noon to 2 p.m. Registration: webapp.mcis.utoronto.ca. *Asian Institute*

Reimagining Sovereignty in the Multiple Caribbean.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

Prof. Michelle Stephens, Mt. Holyoke College. Room 2001, 7 King's College Circle. Noon to 2 p.m. *Diaspora & Transnational Studies*

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

The Body in Medieval Culture.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10 AND

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

Centre for Medieval Studies and Centre

for Reformation & Renaissance Studies annual conference. Keynote speakers: Prof. Peter Biller, University of York, U.K., on *The Bodies of the Peoples of the World*; Prof. Dyan Elliott, Vanderbilt University, on *From Angel to Spouse: Consecrated Virginity to the Fall Into the Body*; and Prof. Nicholas Watson, Harvard University, on "Nihil est idolum in mundo": Corpus Christi and the Controversy Over Images in Late Medieval England. Sessions in Alumni Hall, Old Victoria College Building. Information: +1-978-2380; program details and registration: www.chass.utoronto.ca/medieval; registration: \$40, seniors \$25 and students \$10.

The Cognitive Gap: What Is the Fundamental Difference (If Any) Between Human and Nonhuman Intelligence?

SATURDAY, MARCH 11 AND

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

The second University of Toronto interdisciplinary symposium on the mind (UTism) will bring together faculty, graduate and undergraduate students from such diverse domains as anthropology, psychology, cognitive science, neuroscience, philosophy, physiology, computer science and management with participating scholars from Carleton, Waterloo, York and U of T. One of UTism's goals is to break disciplinary barriers in order to craft a harmonious common ground for discourse pertaining to understanding and modelling the mind and brain. Registration fee: \$15, students \$10; www.cogsci.ca/utism.

New Perspectives on Contemporary Ukraine: Politics, History and Culture.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17 TO

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

The purpose of this interdisciplinary international graduate student symposium is to bring together some of the most accomplished young scholars for three days of presentations and intensive discussion centred around new perspectives on the study of contemporary Ukraine in the wider context of the post-Soviet states. Keynote speaker is Prof. Alexander Motyl, Rutgers University. Vivian & David Campbell Conference Facility, Munk Centre for International

Studies. Program details and registration: www.utoronto.ca/jacyk/gsc2006.html. *Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine, Slavic Languages & Literatures, Political Science, School of Graduate Studies, Arts & Science, Graduate Students' Union, Connaught Committee and George Wolodymyr Danyliw Foundation*

Governing Council.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall. 4:30 p.m.

University Affairs Board.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall. 4:30 p.m.

Business Board.

MONDAY, MARCH 27

Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall. 5 p.m.



MUSIC

FACULTY OF MUSIC EDWARD JOHNSON BUILDING

Visiting Artists.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Lecture by Prof. Patricia Shehan Campbell, University of Washington; Kenneth H. Peacock lecturer. Walter Hall. 12:10 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

Concert of classical folk and contemporary Thai music; Prateep Supanroj, conductor. Walter Hall. 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

Music education workshops by Prof. Patricia Shehan Campbell, University of Washington; Kenneth H. Peacock lecturer. Room 330. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Opera Series.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9 TO

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*; Raffi Armenian, conductor; Michael Patrick Albano, director. MacMillan Theatre. 7:30 p.m., Sunday 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$26, students and seniors \$16.

Ken Page Memorial Trust Master Class Series.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

Hilario Duran, Latin jazz piano. Room 130. 2 to 4 p.m.

Thursdays at Noon.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

Mozart's Gran Partita: Toronto Wind Quintet and guest artists. Walter Hall. 12:10 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Playing the Fool: Representations of Madness in Western Art Music, lecture by Prof. Em. Andrew Hughes. Walter Hall. 12:10 p.m.

World of Music.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

African drumming and dancing; Kwasi Dunyo, director. MacMillan Theatre. 12:10 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Electroacoustic music concert. Walter Hall. 2 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

Student composers concert. Walter Hall. 7:30 p.m.

Jazz Series.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

10 O'Clock and 11 O'Clock jazz orchestras; Paul Read and Terry Promane, directors. MacMillan Theatre. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$13, students and seniors \$7.

Faculty Artist Series.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

Shauna Rolston, cello; Lydia Wong, piano; with guest Peggy Baker, dancer and choreographer. Walter Hall. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$21, students and seniors \$11.

Choirs in Concert.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25


Singing and drumming gala concert with the MacMillan Singers with Nexus; Doreen Rao, conductor. MacMillan Theatre. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$13, students and seniors \$7.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY


Choirs in Concert.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

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THE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR LECTURE SERIES
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Earth Evolution and Climate: A Brief History

W. Richard Peltier
University Professor
Department of Physics
Faculty of Arts and Science


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EVENTS

Choral music of the Americas: Master Chorale, Lori-Anne Dolloff and Brainerd Blyden-Taylor, conductors; presented by the Faculty of Music. Chapel. 7:30 p.m.

U OF T AT SCARBOROUGH

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

Adam Solomon & Tikisa, music of all latitudes series. Academic Resource Centre. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$10, students and seniors \$8. Box office: +16-978-8840; uofttix.ca.



PLAYS & READINGS

Camilla Gibb.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

Reading by Camilla Gibb, Jack McClelland writer-in-residence. Upper Library, Massey College. 4:15 p.m. English

Gay Allison: Poetry Reading.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Reading by award-winning Saskatchewan poet; International Women's Day event. 2-227 OISE/UT, 252 Bloor St. W. Noon. Women's Studies in Education, OISE/UT

Evening of Dub Poetry.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Featuring Rafeef Ziadah, d'bi.young and Afua Cooper. William Doo Auditorium, New College Residence, 45 Willocks St. 6 to 8 p.m. Women's Studies & Gender Studies

U of T Reading Series.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

P.K. Page shares her new memoir *Hand Luggage*. Library, Hart House. 7:30 p.m.

Chester Brown.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

Reading by Chester Brown; novelist talks about his work. George Ignatieff Theatre, 15 Devonshire Place. 3:15 p.m. English

The Adventures of Faustus Bidgood.

THURSDAYS TO SUNDAYS,

MARCH 16 TO MARCH 26

Adaptation of a film written by Andy Jones. Studio Theatre, 4 Glen Morris St. Performances at 8 p.m., Sunday, 2 p.m. Tickets \$15, students and seniors \$10; Sunday, pay what you can. Box office: +16-978-7986; http://gradrama.sa.utoronto.ca.

Group Reading.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Lidija Dimkovska, Ales Mustar, Genya Turovskaya and Matvei Yankelevich; Ugly Duckling Presse presentation.

108N Munk Centre for International Studies. 7 to 9 p.m. Registration: www.utoronto.ca/ceres. European, Russian & Eurasian Studies

The Stillborn Lover.

THURSDAY TO SATURDAY,

MARCH 23 TO MARCH 25

By Timothy Findlay; directed by Martin Hunter. Hart House Theatre presentation with Arts & Letters Club of Toronto. Hart House Theatre. Performances at 8 p.m., Saturday matinee 2 p.m. Tickets \$10, students and seniors \$12.

FILMS

When the Sprits Dance Mambo/Cuando Los Espiitus Bailan Mambo.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

From West and Central Africa to Cuba and New York, this 90-minute documentary fuses sacred practices with traditional and contemporary music. Post-screening discussion. William Doo Auditorium, New College Residence, 45 Willocks St. 6:30 p.m. Women's Studies & Gender Studies

The Revolution Will Not Be Televised.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

Viewing of award-winning documentary on Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez and the attempted coup in April 2002; in conjunction with Walter Gordon Massey symposium. Innis College. 8 p.m.



EXHIBITIONS

U OF T ART CENTRE Collecting Curiosities: The World in One Room.

TO APRIL 8

An exploration of 16th- and 17th-century cabinets of curiosities and their defining influence on museum collecting, featuring a number of fascinating objects such as nautilus shells, Roman and Anglo-Saxon coins, ivory miniatures and blue and white Chinese porcelain; curated by students of the museum studies program. Laidlaw Wing, University College.

Frank's Drawings: Eight Museums.

TO JUNE 17

Spanning 25 years, from 1979 to 2004, the exhibition includes 49 original pen-on-paper drawings of eight museum projects by architect Frank Gehry. Delta Gamma Gallery, Laidlaw Wing, University College. Hours: Tuesday to Friday, noon to 5 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

THOMAS FISHER RARE BOOK LIBRARY

Ars Medica:

Medical Illustration Through the Ages.

TO APRIL 28

An exhibition to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the founding of Associated Medical Services. Hours: Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

NEAR & MIDDLE EASTERN CIVILIZATIONS

The Feminist and Women's Press of the Middle East.

MARCH 8 TO MARCH 9

An exhibition of the feminist and women's newspapers and magazines published in the Middle East or in Middle Eastern diasporas; in conjunction with forum on women and journalism. Room 200B, 4 Bancroft Ave. Hours: Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

JUSTINA M. BARNICKE GALLERY

HART HOUSE Art and Camera Competitions.

MARCH 9 TO APRIL 6

A juried exhibition of art by Hart House members. Gallery hours: Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m.

DORIS MCCARTHY GALLERY U OF T AT SCARBOROUGH

Zaimai: Return, Afghanistan.

MARCH 16 TO MAY 12

A result of Zaimai's return to his native Afghanistan under the auspices of the UN commissioner for refugees, this exhibition presents a body of work that is a dramatic personal account of the beginnings of reconstruction. Gallery hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

MISCELLANY

Mr. Danger and the Socialism for the New Millennium: A Discussion of the Current State of Venezuela.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

Speakers: Santiago Canton, Organization of American States; Maria Paez Vicotir, sociologist and policy analyst; Victor Rivas, Spanish and Portuguese. Moderator: Bernie Lucht, CBC Ideas; Walter Gordon Massey symposium. Isabel Bader Theatre, Victoria University, 93 Charles St. W. 8 p.m. Tickets: +16-978-6896.

Memorial Service.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Join colleagues, friends and family for a special service to commemorate the life of Prof. Gianrenzo Clivio of Italian studies who died Jan. 23. Madden auditorium, Carr Hall, St. Michael's College, 100 St. Joseph St. 5 p.m.



DEADLINES

Please note that information for the Events listing must be received at The Bulletin offices, 21 King's College Circle, by the following times:

Issue of March 27 for events taking place March 27 to April 10: MONDAY, MARCH 13.

Issue of April for events taking place April 10 to 24: MONDAY, MARCH 27.

For information regarding the Events section please contact Ailsa Ferguson at +16-978-6981; ailsa.ferguson@utoronto.ca

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SGS COUNCIL SPRING 2006 ELECTION NOMINATIONS OPEN

What does SGS Council do?

SGS Council is primarily responsible for establishing policies and procedures concerning the administration and quality of graduate studies at the University of Toronto.

SGS Council considers:

- changes in SGS policy
- new degree proposals
- new program proposals
- changes in admission requirements
- changes in program regulations
- fellowships and awards policy reports of ad hoc committees
- review reports of SGS centres/institutes
- other matters as appropriate

Nomination forms are available from:

SGS Website
School of Graduate Studies
Graduate departments
Graduate centres/institutes
Graduate Students' Union

Eligibility:

Candidates must be full members (non-Emeritus) of the graduate faculty or registered graduate students in the division in

which they have been nominated.

Administrative candidates must be continuing or contractually appointed members of the University administrative staff.

Vacant Seats:

7 Faculty Members of a graduate unit
2 in Social Sciences
3 in Physical Sciences
3 in Life Sciences

8 Graduate students

2 in Humanities
3 in Social Sciences
1 in Physical Sciences
2 in Life Sciences

3 Administrative staff

2 from any graduate unit
1 from SGS

Terms of office:

Terms begin July 1, 2006.

Faculty members normally serve a three-year term of office.

Student and administrative staff members may opt for a one- or two-year term of office, to a maximum of three consecutive years.

For more information contact: 416-946-3427

Governance Officer, School of Graduate Studies, 65 St. George Street

Nominations Close at 5:00 p.m. March 16, 2006

COMMITTEES

The Bulletin regularly publishes the terms of reference and membership of committees.

The deadline for submissions is Monday, two weeks prior to publication.

CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION & COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY, OISE/UT

A search committee has been established to recommend a chair of the Department of Adult Education & Counselling Psychology. Members are: Professors Jane Gaskell, dean, OISE/UT (chair); Sandra Acker, associate dean, Division II, School of Graduate Studies; Angela Miles, Roxana Ng, Niva Piran and Jeanne Watson, adult education and counselling psychology; and John Portelli,

theory and policy studies in education; and Amelia Nanni, administrative staff, adult education and counselling psychology; and Mark Federman and Patricia Poulin, graduate students, adult education and counselling psychology.

The committee would appreciate receiving nominations and comments from interested members of the university community. These should be sent before March 10 to Mary Stager, assistant to the dean, at mstager.oise.utoronto.ca.

U of T STAFF & FACULTY

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BEYOND POSTURING

Cartoon controversy highlights need for dialogue

BY SAFIYAH ALLY

MUCH HAS BEEN WRITTEN ABOUT THE DANISH NEWSPAPER THAT DARED PUBLISH 12 cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad in a manner that many Muslims deemed sacrilegious and demeaning. The newspaper claimed the cartoons were “part of an ongoing public debate on freedom of expression” in Denmark. The Muslim reaction has been swift and overwhelming, ranging from street demonstrations and the boycotting of Danish goods to flag trampling, the burning of buildings and, tragically, the loss of lives.

Stepping back from the fray, one is able to observe how misguided the loudest voices are, even as each side claims the moral high ground. Perhaps the most lamentable aspect of this cartoon controversy is the reality that neither those who support nor those who protest the publication of the cartoons have reached across the divide in order to properly understand the other.

“Defenders of free speech” want to pit opponents as crazies bent upon censorship and lacking any nuanced understanding of the foundational principles of Danish society. This characterization is unfair. There may be some Muslims who do not understand the concept of free speech, but many others do. And while defenders of free speech rightly argue that liberal democratic societies afford individuals the right to criticize religion, free speech is never absolute. The imprisonment of Holocaust denier David Irving is one example of the way in which a liberal democratic society chooses to weigh free speech against other significant values — in this case, the need to ensure that the ideas that led to the horrific atrocities of the Second World War do not again gain credence among the general public. The French government’s ban on the headscarf in public spaces is another case that highlights the limits of free speech. Muslims recognize that the cartoon controversy is not just a debate about the meaning of free speech.

It would be difficult to craft a law that would prevent a religion from being denigrated while preserving the sanctity of free speech — for this reason, blasphemy laws have fallen into disuse. But one need not require that free speech be limited by law. Societal norms of civil discourse already place limits upon free speech, not because of a desire to stifle thoughts and ideas but rather because of an appreciation of the impossibility of living in a society in which individuals think it acceptable to verbally attack each other. Civil discourse exists on a higher plane than does free speech, setting limits that are often not enacted by law but rather are agreed upon by individuals within society. One observes those rules in play when editors decide not to publish images of dead bodies in New Orleans or not to post nudes on their front page — or when the Danish newspaper that published the Muhammad cartoons rejected a Jesus cartoon two years ago. These decisions are made out of a certain level of knowledge of and respect for one’s readership. One could argue then that the Danish newspaper that published the 12 cartoons violated the unwritten rules of civil discourse.

The protests by Muslims mask a greater fear that the responsibility to protect minority communities — itself an important element in liberal democratic societies — is not being respected. The cartoons are not just about free speech; they are also about marginalizing a minority community. The Muslim community in Denmark is tiny — approximately 210,000 individuals identify as Muslims. When Muslims object to the cartoons, some may be doing so because of their reverence and love for the Prophet Muhammad, and in this sense, they may be imposing their own religious views on those who do not share them. But an argument could be made that while Muslims want to be part of Danish society, they cannot do so when they are alienated and made to feel inferior. The cartoons feature the most highly regarded individual among Muslims in a manner demeaning to his stature. Is there any question Muslims are going to feel like the “other”? Defenders of the cartoons need to understand the deep-seated fear amongst Muslims that this is not simply about ridicule of Muhammad; rather, it is a troubling attack on Islam and Muslims. When elements of the dominant society irresponsibly critique minority communities, they run the risk of silencing elements of society, stripping individuals of their agency and alienating a minority community from the wider societal culture. These repercussions must be weighed against the need to gratuitously publish a dozen offensive cartoons.

On the other hand, “The West is evil” protesters need to develop a greater appreciation

for the meaning of free speech in liberal democratic societies. Unlike many Middle Eastern countries, speech is considered distinct from the government institutions and structures. So the demand that Danish prime minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen apologize for something a newspaper has published is simply preposterous. If one wanted to protest the publication of the Muhammad cartoons, one could always cancel one’s subscription to the newspaper. But boycott products from the country? Burn Danish flags? Remove ambassadors to express one’s displeasure? Those sorts of responses appear nonsensical to western sensibilities. The Danish government is not to be blamed for the idiocy of a private newspaper.

Moreover, Muslims need to be aware of the benefits they have accrued as a result of free speech and other protected rights in liberal democratic countries. The practice of Islam itself requires free speech. Would Muslims enact laws that constrict themselves? Many Muslims have fled oppressive regimes in other parts of the world. The rights afforded to them in western societies enable them to live freer lives than would be possible in many

so-called Islamic countries around the globe. Muslims cannot force their religion onto others. They cannot insist that people appreciate Muhammad the way they do — by not denigrating him or associating him with extremist elements within the Muslim community. But Muslims live, for the most part, in free societies and there are countless opportunities to share with others their own vision of Muhammad and to convince others that he is a man to be honoured and dignified. Muslims can do so by living like the Prophet did, by behaving and speaking in the noble manner of the Prophet himself and by showing themselves to be the rightful followers of this blessed man.

If Muslims can appreciate how much they have gained from the communities they choose to live in, they should waste little time fretting over 12 cartoons in a single

paper. The cartoons, horrendous though they may be, need not affect a Muslim’s impression of Muhammad, for the Islamic tradition shows him to be a man imbued with dignity, morality and goodness. Muhammad was ridiculed from the moment he started receiving revelations in Mecca more than 1,400 years ago. The threats on his life are well documented in the Qur’an and hadith literature. A few cartoons will do little to harm him or the Muslims who claim to follow him. There are larger problems to tackle than the publication of 12 silly cartoons.

“The West is evil” protesters need also understand how much the events of Sept. 11, 2001 and the resulting fear of terrorism have deeply embedded themselves into the collective conscience of the people, creating a new recognition of the danger that extremist Muslims pose to liberal democratic societies and a new willingness to actively resist forces within Islam that would craft the world in their own image. The over-the-top reaction amongst Muslims only reinforces fears about the threat of Islam. Muslims are perceived as reactionary and unable to integrate into the societies to which they’ve immigrated. Is this the impression Muslims want to give?

If nothing else, the cartoon controversy has revealed the lack of dialogue and deep understanding between the West and adherents to Islam and the need to elevate the discourse beyond the posturing on both sides. Recently, a campus newspaper published a cartoon of Muhammad and Jesus in a compromising sexual position. Muslim students view this cartoon as offensive and counterproductive precisely because it engaged in ridicule of identifiable groups and their stated ideals. In so doing, the publication of the cartoon violated the norms that allow for civil discourse — among them, respect and appreciation for minority faiths and cultures.

While it is the primary obligation of the university to uphold the principle of free speech, the university is also deeply committed to fostering an environment in which differences are respected and individuals are treated with dignity. It is important that the university take a lead in developing meaningful and constructive ways to foster an environment that is tolerant and accommodating of all individuals and conducive to the development of intercultural and interreligious dialogue and exchange on campus, setting an example for the rest of society.

Safiyyah Ally is a PhD candidate in political science and communications director for U of T’s Muslim Students’ Association.



JACQUI OAKLEY